

This issue

News from SUN CSN **p1**

The SUN CSN plays a role
In Nutrition for Growth
commitments tracking **p2**

Events & Meetings **p2**

Coming Soon **p2**

Funding News **p3**

Resources **p3**

Other Noteworthy

Nutrition Publications

& Resources **p3**

Information sharing
resource for MPTF-funded
Civil Society platforms **p3**

Conflict of Interest **p3**

Civil Society Alliances
in Action **p4-11**

World BreastFeeding
week **p12**

Civil Society Alliance
in 29 SUN countries **p12**



News from the SUN Civil Society Network (SUN CSN)

Membership

The SUN CSN has now developed a membership strategy. Join the network and help us in our efforts to scale up nutrition or simply formalise your existing relationship with the network [here](#).

Life at the Secretariat

◆ The network is expanding:

⇒ Ariane Maixandeu is our communications intern for the next few months and will be instrumental in keeping our network communications live. We are happy to welcome her to the team.

⇒ With now 29 Civil Society Alliances in SUN countries, the network is recruiting a [SUN CSN country support officer](#) to support CSAs in their efforts. Deadline for applications is **6 February 2014**.

Communications - A web platform

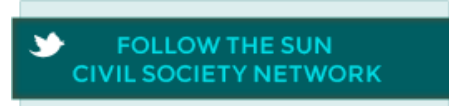
☉ The SUN CSN web page has been revamped – Please check it out [here](#). French and Spanish versions to follow soon.

☉ The SUN CSN now also has a webinar facility which will be used much more actively in 2014 for thematic webinars, internal network discussions, opportunities for advocacy, amongst other things. Keep an eye out on our webpage for updates!

☉ The SUN CSN has also now created a Dropbox depot of resources available for Civil Society Alliances to share key documentation and resources. It will soon be available on the SUN CSN webpage.

Working Groups

The SUN CSN has formed small working groups working on the planning of a **Global Day of Action** with all CSAs, the development of consensual messaging to inform advocacy to ensure food and nutrition security feature prominently in the **post-2015** development framework, and working on a **longer-term strategy** towards **maintaining nutrition on both the global and national agendas** as well as advocating for additional commitments to scaling up nutrition in the world.



The SUN CSN plays a role in Nutrition for Growth commitments tracking

On June 8th 2013 at the Nutrition for Growth event, convened by the UK, Government of Brazil and CIFF, governments, businesses, UN agencies, CSOs and scientific institutions all made commitments to do more to tackle under nutrition. The collective ambition of those who committed was to:

- * Ensure that at least 500 million pregnant women and children under two are reached with effective nutrition interventions.
- * Prevent at least 20 million children under five from being stunted.
- * Save at least 1.7m lives by reducing stunting, by increasing breastfeeding, and through the treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

The SUN CSN is facilitating discussions with CSOs that made commitment at the summit in June 2013. The Network will contribute to developing a common framework and guidance on reporting on the basis of a consultation with the CSOs involved. An independent expert group will collect the data, and provide advice and guidance to CSOs to promote excellence in tracking and reporting. A final global annual nutrition report will be publicly available in September 2014.

EVENTS & MEETINGS

+ **ACTION Advocacy Workshop** in Lusaka, Zambia (December 9 – 12, 2013) – [check out our blog](#)

+ **The 40th Annual Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)** was held in FAO, Rome, Italy from 7 - 11 October 2013 – [check out our blog](#)

+ **United Nations General Assembly 2013 to review progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to chart the way forward:**

+ On the 25th of September 2013, [outcome document here](#)

+ **Sustaining Political Commitments to Scaling Up Nutrition event on the 10th of June 2013 in Washington, DC:** The event summary report is now [available](#)

[For more information, check out our blog here!](#)

Coming Soon!

SUN CSN Surgery - In an effort to improve internal network communication flow and to ensure network efforts reflect the reality of our CSAs' efforts, the SUN CSN plans to use the webinar platform for Q&A sessions, information sharing and update and thematic internal discussions and debates. More information soon!

A guidance note on Budget Analysis - This will be a useful resources for CSAs planning to undertake such an exercise and CSAs wanting to integrate this as an annual exercise in their work plan. This will also help inform advocacy strategy development and implementation and CSA efforts to support governments.

A report from the SUN CSN mapping exercise and country snapshots will soon be available - In 2013, the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) Steering Group commissioned a mapping of existing SUN Civil Society Alliances (CSAs) to build a more detailed picture of current progress within each country and identify specific assets and support needs. The results of this mapping will be used by the SUN CSN to develop and roll-out a capacity-building strategy in 2014. The initial mapping was undertaken between September and November 2013. The report is available in [English](#). Spanish and French versions will soon be available as well as country snapshots .

Capacity Building Strategy - We plan to have our capacity building strategy developed and implementation starting in the first quarter of 2014, aligned with the SUN movement Capacity to Deliver.

FUNDING NEWS

The 2013 multi-partner trust fund (MPTF) call for proposals to support efforts of unfunded Civil Society Alliances was a success and resulted in 11 additional Civil Society Alliances (CSAs) being funded in El Salvador, Guinea, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao DPR, Madagascar, Myanmar, Peru, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe. More information [here](#).

MPTF WEBSITE
A KEY RESOURCE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ALLIANCES AND OTHERS: INFORMATION SHARING FOR MPTF-FUNDED PLATFORMS

RESOURCES

- A document presenting the network is now available in [French](#), [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- A guidance note on establishing and strengthening a SUN CSA is now available in [French](#), [English](#) and [Spanish](#).
- A diagram of the SUN CSN governance structure now available in [French](#), [English](#) and [Spanish](#)
- **Analysing Success in the Fight against Malnutrition in Peru** - Read a more in depth IDS report on the Peru experience [here](#)
- **Action Against Hunger** | ACF has elaborated a **toolkit to assist** its staff at mission, regional and HQ levels to **plan, implement and monitor advocacy strategy**. However it can be used by any other actor. It is not meant as a stand-alone guide on how to carry out advocacy activities. Instead it provides key questions for reflection and discussion, basic advocacy pointers (the theory) and some tools to help work your way logically through the different stages of an advocacy planning cycle. This tool is available in [French](#) and [English](#).
- Check out the Participatory Local Democracy Global Community of Practice - [here](#)
- An Analytical Framework for Assessing Decentralized Local Governance and the Local Sector available [here](#)
- More resources like this available on the SUN [community resources](#) section.
- Documentation for MPTF funded Civil Society Alliances available [here](#).

[Bangladesh](#)

[El Salvador](#)

[Ghana](#)

[Guatemala](#)

[Malawi](#)

[Mali](#)

[Mozambique](#)

[Nepal](#)

[Niger](#)

[Peru](#)

[Uganda](#)

CONSULT SUN COMMUNITY RESOURCES
& SUBMIT KEY RESOURCES

Community Links

News, tools, materials and other resources shared from across the Movement

[READ MORE](#) ▶

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office **GATEWAY**
Fund administration in real time. Data refreshed 2 hours ago.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The first phase of the SUN movement conflict of interest process is coming to completion. Documentation related to the process to date is available [here](#):

The documentation available includes background material for each of the three consultation meetings that took place in 2013, including a draft Reference Note discussed during the third consultation meeting in November 2013. Please note that the Reference Note is currently being finalised taking on board discussion during the final consultation, and it is possible that some of the narrative may change.

Other Noteworthy Nutrition Publications & Resources

[The Economic Rationale for Investing in Stunting Reduction](#) outlines the economic rationale for investments that reduce stunting.

[Healthy people depend on healthy food systems](#): Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition during the World Food Day (16th of October 2013)

[Forests: The World's First Sustainable Food Systems](#) - EndingHunger.

[WFP Brings Work And Nutrition To Bear On Hunger In Mali](#) - World Food Programme

[Keeping the momentum on the Right to Food](#) - Jenny Lei Ravelo for Devex

[Free eLearning course on Malnutrition](#) - University of Southampton

[How finding research gaps can help fight malnutrition](#) - Jenny Lei Ravelo for Devex

[WASH & Nutrition: Partnering for a Healthier Future](#) – WASH Advocates

[Harvesting Nutrition 2013 Contest](#) - SecureNutrition, GAIN and Save the Children

[Food Security - Mapping for sustainable intensification](#) - Wageningen University & Research centre ([video here](#))

[2012 Hunger Map](#) - World Food Programme ([interactive map here](#))

Many more when you follow us on twitter [@SUNCSN](#).

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

National CSA Efforts

GHANA

In 2013, the Ghana Coalition of Civil Society Organizations for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACCSUN):

- ◇ Undertook a Baseline rapid appraisal of CSOs involvement in nutrition actions and advocacy
- ◇ Undertook a mapping of CSOs involved in nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive actions in Ghana;
- ◇ Developed an Advocacy and Communications Strategy;
- ◇ Conducted training for colleagues in the media and for members of the network in northern Ghana;
- ◇ Organized 1,000 Days of the child concert with a song composed and produced;
- ◇ Contributed to media messages for nutrition with a new television nutrition episode "tomorrow today";
- ◇ Appointed a nutrition celebrity;
- ◇ Contributed to the finalization of Ghana's nutrition policy and organized consensus meeting on the policy;
- ◇ Held a consultative meeting/dialogue on the 2013 budget with members of Parliament and policy makers;
- ◇ GHACCSUN is keen to strengthen country level advocacy to enhance the visibility of nutrition at country level;
- ◇ Conducted a capacity building workshop on nutrition for the CSAs' 60 member organizations in northern Ghana, Tamale (15 October 2013) to equip members of the platform in northern Ghana with the necessary skills and insight to effectively advocate for improved nutrition in Ghana and in the north in particular;
- ◇ Launched the platform in Accra, Ghana with high media visibility (1 August 2013) with high media visibility which attracted the participation of high Government officials including the Director-General of Ghana Health Service, Minister of food and agriculture and members of parliament. The launch resulted in the development of relations between the platform and state actors with solidarity messages being delivered at the launch by high government officials;
- ◇ Contributed to the work of the national SUN movement efforts at the highest level through the Cross Sectoral planning Group;
- ◇ Ghana has been successful at lobbying for nutrition integration by facilitating the formation of the Ghana Parliamentarians Against Hunger and Malnutrition Caucus. The Caucus now has 26 members from both side of the House of Ghana's Parliament. The CSA is pushing nutrition issues through the legislature and would like to share their experience with other countries.



Photo Credits: © Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

KENYA

In 2013, the SUN CSA in Kenya successfully secured MPTF support for the establishment and strengthening of the Alliance. As a newly formed alliance, the Kenya CSA:

- ◇ Held its first meeting on 18th December 2013 which brought together 18 civil society organisations, among them six national organisations;



Photo Credits: © Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

MALAWI

In 2013, the Malawi Civil Society Organization Nutrition Alliance (CSONA):

- ◇ Made a presentation at the National Nutrition Committee meeting where the alliance highlighted its planned activities and scope of work. The Principal Secretary (PS) of the Department of Nutrition HIV and AIDS (DNHA) endorsed the alliance and encouraged its participation and engagement in the national arena. The alliance is now a member of the National Nutrition Committee;
- ◇ Recruited a full-time coordinator and supporting officer for the Alliance;
- ◇ Finalised its Terms of reference (TOR) after inputs from key members as well as other relevant stakeholders. The Donor group for Nutrition & Food Security (DoNuts) and the DNHA have acknowledged the critical role the alliance has to play in coordinating nutrition efforts. Having created interest among its members and other NGOs the alliance made a presentation at the International NGO (INGO) forum; The alliance is a member of the DoNuts platforms that meets monthly.
- ◇ Worked towards the establishment of District Nutrition platforms;
- ◇ Released its first update to its members in December 2013;



Photo Credits: © Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

At community level, CSONA members will be involved in the following activities:

Sectors mainstreaming nutrition in their strategies and policies,

- ◇ Decision-makers orientated in SUN,
- ◇ Local authorities, Area Development Committee's (ADCs) and Village Development Committee's (VDCs) briefed on SUN,
- ◇ Striving to improve coordination at all levels,
- ◇ Attempting to establish coordination structures at all levels.

MOZAMBIQUE

In 2013, the Mozambique SUN Civil Society Alliance, under the leadership of the *Nutrition* and Food Security Association (ANSA), with technical support from Helen Keller International:

- ◇ Established national level platform with around 20 member CSOs;
- ◇ Developed and finalised its terms of reference ToR and a commitment document signed by member CSOs;
- ◇ Established 3 provincial level CS platforms each comprising between 10-12 members. One province has made commitments and signed the CSO sheet, two additional provinces are in the process of signing the commitment sheet;
- ◇ Started developing its alliance-level advocacy strategy;
- ◇ Developed training manuals to train CSA members on basic nutrition concepts, advocacy, fundraising and lobbying and one training was completed;
- ◇ Supported SETSAN (in terms of technical support), who is the SUN government focal point in country, to organize the launch of the SUN Movement in Mozambique (where government representatives, donors and UN representatives, private sector, and CS were present) - 8th August 2013. The event was chaired by the permanent secretariat of Agriculture, resident UN coordinator and the ambassador of Italy as representative of the G19.
- ◇ The CSA members participated in development of government policies and plans - including food security and nutrition strategy, ESAN II, the multisectoral plan of action to reduce chronic malnutrition, and food fortification plan.

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013



Photo Credits: © Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

- ◇ Participated in the development of the National Advocacy Strategy for Chronic Under-nutrition (led by SETSAN with UN-REACH support);
- ◇ CSA member, Michigan State University, planned for 2014 two studies on the diversity of the diet; and the production of macronutrients by rural households- which will be shared with other stakeholders.
- ◇ Organised a meeting with all CSA members, including the 3 provincial focal points, plus the Government sectorial members of SETSAN (the coordinator body for food and nutrition security in the country and the SUN government focal point; which includes members from agriculture., education, water and sanitation, social, health, etc., donors, UN and private sector representatives) in December 2013.

TANZANIA

The SUN CSA in Tanzania is the Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania (PANITA). Launched in 2011, it is a large, well-established CSA with representation throughout Tanzania's with CSA coordinators in nine zones. PANITA comprises 280 member organisations from INGOs, national NGOS, community-based organisations, faith-based organisations to academia working in sectors of agriculture, education, WASH, human rights, social protection, health, environment, climate change, nutrition, community development, livestock and income generation. Due to its size, PANITA's focus is now on strengthening coordination, capacity building, communication and M&E and the mapping of member assets and programmes to further maximise its effectiveness and impact.

PANITA's main activities include:

- ◇ Building a strong network of MP nutrition champions in Tanzania and Zanzibar and piloting the CSA advocacy strategy in one district, with the intention to roll-out to other districts;
- ◇ Analysis of district-level nutrition plans, budgets and expenditures in selected districts to provide evidence for advocacy;
- ◇ Engagement in policy and legal frameworks including the review of a food and nutrition policy;
- ◇ Supporting MPs that oversee government performance in nutrition with technical expertise and field trips;
- ◇ Public mobilisation and community awareness raising of national nutrition strategic plan;
- ◇ Capacity building of the CSA members on nutrition initiatives, advocacy, policy, and project management;
- ◇ Supporting CSA members to attend various nutrition forums for training, advocacy and technical groups;
- ◇ Provide nutrition expertise and field trips support to PANITA's media arm (Tanzania Association of Journalists for Children) that reports on nutrition issues.

In December 2013, PANITA hosted its Annual General Meeting with 59 CSOs representatives to contribute to the first ideas of the country CSA strategy. For PANITA, 2014 will be a year of developing various strategies for strengthening of the network in Tanzania (PANITA): CSA strategy, the advocacy strategy, capacity building strategy and a funding strategy.

PANITA is keen to learn from SUN civil society network experiences.



[View a video produced by PANITA to learn more about their work in Tanzania.](#)

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

UGANDA

In 2013, the Uganda Civil Society Coalition on Scaling Up Nutrition (UCCO-SUN):

- ◇ Held its first Annual General Meeting in July 2013 where 11 member organizations were nominated to form the UCCO-SUN steering committee and a constitution was adopted.
- ◇ Developed a web portal (<http://uccosun.ugansociety.org>) on the Uganda Action for Nutrition (UGAN) website.
- ◇ Recruited a full-time coordinator for the Coalition;
- ◇ Held a five day training in nutrition advocacy for 30 CSO youths in Kampala;
- ◇ Commemorated the World Breastfeeding week together with partners, organising a public symposium in Kyambogo University, media campaigns at both national and regional levels;
- ◇ Hosted a policy dialogue and school nutrition advocacy events to support nutrition advocacy initiatives during the Global Week of Nutrition Action in June 2013;
- ◇ Worked in conjunction with Save the Children to call for renewed commitment by all actors to do effective budgeting transparency and accountability for child nutrition. On 27th November 2013, UCCO-SUN organised a launch of the [Budget Transparency and Child Nutrition Report](#) which was planned to be followed by civil society handing in a petition to the speaker of parliament or designate calling upon parliament to use its oversight role to scale up nutrition and promote budgeting transparency and accountability for child nutrition. A media dialogue was also held prior to the event on the 25th November 2013 to create awareness among the media.
- ◇ Joined the Ministry of Health, UNICEF and other development partners in a Nutrition marathon (30th November 2013) in Bushenyi District in Uganda. Bushenyi is one of the districts that produce the largest amount of food and yet has is among the districts with the highest percentage of stunting. The marathon was held to create awareness on the importance of good nutrition to the population and also highlight the shortcomings for malnutrition with the theme “Run for good nutrition”. The Chief runner at the marathon was the Olympics gold medallist in the 42 kilometre marathon Stephen Kiprotich. The day was also graced with the presence of the members of parliament and Ministers from this district.
- ◇ Conducted a Nutrition advocacy training in Bushenyi district (30th November 2013) that targeted 30 CSO members to create awareness and empower them with the necessary nutrition advocacy information.
- ◇ Were actively involved in preparations for and participated in the National Nutrition Forum under the Office of the Prime Minister which took place December 2 -3, 2013. The Office of the Prime Minister in Uganda brought together key stakeholders both the state and non-state actors to the first annual nutrition forum. The major objective of the forum was to take stock of the status of the implementation of the Uganda Nutrition Action plan (UNAP) and improvement on the nutrition situation of Uganda. The two day event was characterised by exhibitions, speeches, paper presentation, making of commitment and signing of an aide memoir by the key stakeholders in scaling up nutrition in Uganda. The chief guest was the Prime Minister of Uganda Rt Hon Amaama Mbabazi who is also the SUN champion in Uganda
- ◇ Contributed to the launch of the sharpened Maternal New Born and Child Health Plan (26th November 2013) with the civil society, private sector and other development partners to renew commitments to end the preventable new born and child deaths.



Photo Credits: © UNICEF/Lemonye

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

ZAMBIA

In 2013, the Zambia Civil Society Scaling-Up Nutrition Alliance (CSO-SUN Alliance):

- ◇ Continued to build the profile and awareness of nutrition with the Zambian population and within government sector plans and budgets at national level and in three districts;
- ◇ Reviewed and commented on government policies and plans to ensure the inclusion of nutrition-focused language and interventions and an analysis of the national budget for food and nutrition forms the basis of advocacy for the foreseeable future;
- ◇ Reviewed Government's recent national budget announcement and conducted adapted advocacy efforts in light of the findings;
- ◇ Participated in the meeting of the Multi-stakeholder Platform (MSP) along with government, UN, universities in December 2013;
- ◇ Coordinated a Global Day of Action & took part in key high level events (e.g. [Nutrition for Growth Summit](#) in London in June 2013)
- ◇ Developed an official official song on 1000 days by Movi Pose Band
- ◇ Coordinated CS actions – World Breastfeeding Week, Tax justice, Accountability and tracking of commitments;
- ◇ Continued to engage with the media with high visibility for nutrition in the country and [a nutrition awards event](#);
- ◇ Held its annual meeting during the week of 25th November 2013, the CSA met to develop their 2014 work plan. It was a very participatory process with about 22 member organisations participating ranging from the UN (WFP & UNICEF), DFID to community-based organisations from the focus district. The plan incorporates post-2015 and road to Rio 2016 advocacy efforts as well as planning for a Global Day of Action 2014.
- ◇ Contributed to the planning and holding of a 3 day SUN donors meeting followed by site visits. December 3, 2013, donors and SUN movement Secretariat met with the CSA with Members of Parliament (4) from the major political parties. There was a strong call for an MPs network and DFID suggested to link Zambian MPs to the Brazilian counterparts. A video will be available shortly.

An in-depth interview with the CSO-SUN Alliance in Zambia coordinator soon to be released – watch out for this!



Radio Hot seat in Zambia. From Left to Right—Claire Blanchard (SUN CSN coordinator), Yusina Melangabesa (National Food and Nutrition Commission Zambia), William Chilufya (CSO-SUN Alliance in Zambia coordinator)

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

[Looking back at 2013, here are some examples of what is being done by the SUN Civil Society Alliances](#) at the country level

These are just examples and are not a comprehensive overview of what the all existing CSAs have been up to.

Some examples of Budget Analysis Efforts

In 2013, a few CSAs undertook or started budget analyses in their countries.

MALAWI

In Malawi, Save the Children took the lead on national budget analysis, with support from Save the Children London office. The SUN CSA in Malawi is connecting to see how to contribute to these efforts and use analysis results to inform the CSA advocacy strategy.

Unfortunately the budget analysis was done after the 2013/2014 budget had already been passed but there are plans to do this very early in 2014 so that it feeds into parliament meeting.

Nonetheless a follow-up visit was made on some of the questions that were raised in the initial budget analysis. Through this follow-up visit the CSA stumbled upon certain critical issues that will form part of CSA advocacy strategy that Save the Children together with the CSA plan to launch early 2014, whilst considering some of the risk this may have especially since this will be prior to the Malawi general elections (May 2014). There are a series of meetings taking place with Save the Children and the interim steering committee to explore this further.

MOZAMBIQUE

When the 5 year national multi-sectoral plan to reduce chronic malnutrition was finalised in Mozambique, the SUN CSA did not yet exist. However, SETSAN is now in the process of doing a revision and the SUN CSA will participate in this process. Once this process happens the alliance will be able to share the experience on common budgeting exercise.

ZAMBIA

Firstly, the SUN CSA in Zambia scrutinized the Finance Minister's Budget speech presented to parliament on the 11th October 2013. In doing so, the CSA discussed key points particularly related to nutrition interventions with focal actors such as the National Food & Nutrition Commission (NFNC).

The CSA then examined contents of the 2014 Yellow Book which is the government's budget document. It details exact spending line figures. Focus was on allocations towards direct nutrition related interventions across the entire national budget. The CSA used as benchmarks in their analysis, the commitments made by government at the Nutrition of Growth Summit held in London in June 2013 as well as Government commitment to the fight against malnutrition through the National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan. In all these, the CSA was in constant consultation with members of the Alliance, the NFNC and other key stakeholders such as Members of Parliament who are nutrition champions.

Based on observations in the Yellow book (detailed budget allocation) and input from the aforementioned actors, the CSA then prepared the analysis. As a result, the alliance was invited to appear before the Expanded Committee for Estimates to present our analysis. This committee is the parliamentary committee that scrutinizes budget estimates. Present at this appearance were members of media, NFNC and Members of Parliament. CSA had a great presentation in which MPs present made comment mostly in affirmation with findings and concerns. Finally, CSA circulated document and shared with SUN CSN.

SUN Civil Society Alliances in Action in 2013

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SUN CSN IN NIGER – TUN ON THE BUDGET ANALYSIS PROCESS

Measures to be considered:

In the analysis of funding for nutrition it appeared to us essential to take some precautions for the next editions.

- Agree beforehand on nutrition interventions to be taken into account.
- Methodology: it is necessary to define the methodology and explain the inclusion and exclusion criteria. It is also necessary to mention the limitations of the analysis, namely funding potentially invested in nutrition but that is difficult to quantify. Possible duplication / double counting should also be raised if necessary.
- The analysis of the national budget has been particularly difficult in Niger and specifically to determine the level of funding provided through the national budget for nutrition. This is because budget lines are not very explicit. It is therefore necessary, in the context of a budget analysis to develop a methodology that would allow to identify more closely the exact amount allocated to nutrition. In Niger, this analysis was made by taking budget estimates for State programmes and projects to which was applied budget execution rates.
- Financing of NGOs: Another difficulty was the estimated financing mobilized by NGOs and not through the main instruments noted above. These NGOs are mostly reluctant to publish this information and there is no legal authority to enforce such activity. This is why, TUN's analysis raises the importance to make a strong plea to close stakeholders and the State to establish better coordination in this sector.

Lessons learned from the Niger experience:

The first experience in budget analysis has allowed TUN (the SUN CSA in Niger) to develop an acceptable and perfectible methodology. This methodology comprised making an analysis based on the main financing instruments for nutrition in Niger. Indeed there are three (3) main instruments or channels through which the financing of nutrition happens:

- National Budget through the fund allocated to the ministry of public health and in particular the Department of Nutrition;
- Global Appeal (CAP), an instrument for research of funds, and monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian interventions including nutrition interventions;
- The support to vulnerable people plan is a tool for managing humanitarian crises managed by the prime minister's office.

These three instruments together alone cover most of the funds allocated to nutrition interventions in the country. However, a non-negligible portion does not pass through these channels and is very difficult to assess. That is why it has not been taken into account in the budget analysis in Niger. Indeed, the funds raised and managed directly by NGOs are difficult to evaluate. But their inclusion in the budget analysis would only lessen public investment compared to international donor funding.

Guidance for annual budget analysis:

- For the next editions of such budget analysis, the SUN CSA should continue its analysis using the three (3) main instruments or channels through which the financing of nutrition happens as above described. The alliance must also follow / track the efforts for better coordination of the sector and greater transparency in the management of funds allocated to nutrition.
- The alliance should also work with institutions in charge of implementation to establish a tracking system for nutrition investments that would enable the easier development of annual status report.

Budget analysts author Niger: Alternative Association citizen space / Association Alternative Espace Citoyen (Ibrahim DIORI)



World Breastfeeding Week



Photo Credits: © Micronutrient Initiative

SIERRA LEONE

Supported community sensitization activities in collaboration with Food and Nutrition Directorate of the MoHS and the chairladies of six major markets in the Western Area to raise awareness amongst women about the importance of breastfeeding – market women become mouthpieces and multiplier of nutrition message in community

The national launch of WBW with high level representation at the launch including government officials from MoHS and other line ministries, UN agencies, donors and representatives of mother support groups

The CSA also engaged in radio advocacy with Star Radio which has national coverage and a local radio station (Citizen Radio) that has more extensive audience in the Urban Western Area. The radio advocacy sessions were conducted in collaboration with the nutrition directorate in the MoHS.

BANGLADESH

The CSA for SUN Bangladesh worked with the Voluntary Association for Rural Development, a local NGO and CSA Bangladesh member, to organize a WBW celebration event on August 1 in Sylhet Division. The event was attended by high-level divisional government officials and representatives from across sectors, as well as members of the CSA for SUN Bangladesh, UN REACH, academia and others.

ETHIOPIA

The Ethiopia Civil Society Coalition, Ethiopia's SUN CSA, contributed to an event held at Yekatit 12 Hospital in Addis Ababa. Save the Children, representing the ECSC, joined the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, Ethiopian Pediatrics Society and other local and international organizations to mark World Breastfeeding Week.

ZAMBIA

The Zambia Civil Society Scaling-Up Nutrition Alliance (CSO-SUN Alliance) organized two radio programs in collaboration with World Vision's Child Health Now Campaign and the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC). These programmes aimed to highlight the importance of breastfeeding and establishing the environments to enable this essential practice – as major elements to addressing malnutrition.

CIVIL SOCIETY ALLIANCE IN 29 SUN COUNTRIES

As of January 2014, there are Civil Society Alliances in 29 SUN countries (Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao PDR, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe) at various stages of CSA establishment and activity. Of these 29 alliances, 24 alliances are funded either through the SUN multi-partner trust fund (MPTF) or through bi-lateral donors (DFID, Irish Aid).



Coordinated Civil Society, with a powerful and harmonised voice, can bring the essential grass-root support to scale up nutrition at the local level

Photo Credits: © UNICEF/Noorani