

Good Nutrition Partnership Principles

Derived from the Senior Officials meeting on nutrition held in Ottawa November 30 and December 1, 2010 between donors and development partners, these principles highlight what is needed to emulate the hallmarks of effective partnerships to ensure successful roll-out of the SUN and the achievement of results.

- Strengthening Country Ownership and Leadership

Country-level ownership and leadership are the single most important determinants of success. Buy-in at the sector level as well as by governments as a whole is critical for ensuring the higher prioritization of nutrition at the country level, a clear commitment to results and enhanced capacity to deliver. Partners (donors, civil society, private sector) must work in alignment with and support local systems and nutrition strategies.

- Focusing on Results

Recognizing the exceptionally high development returns that will be achieved through direct nutrition specific interventions and comprehensive nutrition-focused development, the demonstration of results through rigorous evaluation and real-time monitoring is key. Building the evidence base and the demonstration of results will facilitate greater global and country-level advocacy and mobilization for addressing undernutrition.

- Adopting a Multi-Sectoral Approach

Priority integration of nutrition across sectors will accelerate action on the determinants of undernutrition, result in effective and innovative pro-nutrition actions in other sector programmes, and increase policy coherence by addressing the unintended consequences of sector specific programming on nutrition. Building the knowledge base on how to effectively integrate nutrition considerations across sectors will be key and help to ensure county-level roll-out is coordinated, aligned within country systems and implemented in such a manner so as to reduce transaction costs.

- Focusing on Effectiveness

The need to optimize the use of existing resources to achieve nutrition outcomes through more effective and innovative direct nutrition specific interventions and nutrition focused development should be prioritized. Consideration should be given to how partners can work better and more effectively together to achieve nutrition results. Country-level scale up of proven, effective interventions should be fast-tracked.

- Fostering Collaboration and Inclusion

The engagement of all interested stakeholders – from governments, to CSOs, to private sector entities – is critical for sustaining country-level roll-out and the achievement of results. The promotion of inclusive partnerships will serve to further strengthen country-level commitment and leadership and act as a check to monitor progress and ensure accountability.

- Promoting Accountability

High level commitment from donors and development partners to the roll-out of the SUN Framework and Roadmap is critical for ensuring success. Donors and development partners need to be mutually accountable for achieving development results including through global and country level political leadership and commitment, and alignment, predictability and sustainability of support at the country level.