

# Liberia



**Joined Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement:** February 2014

**National multi-stakeholder platform for nutrition:** SUN MSP

**SUN government focal point/country coordinator:** Ms. Mameni Linga-Morlai, SUN Focal Point, Ministry of Health

## COUNTRY NUTRITION STATUS

### → Annual country nutrition indicators from the Global Nutrition Report:

<https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/africa/western-africa/liberia>

### ● National multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

Date established: 2019

- MSP annual action plan exists

### ● Subnational nutrition coordination mechanism

● Subnational MSPs exist

- Subnational MSPs have annual action plans

### ● National nutrition plan

National Multisectoral Nutrition Strategic Costed Plan

### ● Advocacy and communications framework/plan

### SUN networks in-country presence

● SUN Civil Society Network

● SUN Business Network

● UN Nutrition

● SUN Academia Network

● SUN Donor Network

● Others: e.g. youth, parliamentarian, media

### Finance for nutrition

● Resource mobilization strategy exists

● Budget tracking exercise done this year

● Funding gaps identified this year

● Domestic expenditures on nutrition tracked

● Yes ● In process ● No ● Costed ● M&E framework

## COUNTRY PRIORITIES 2022

- Fully functioning SUN Secretariat that is motivated and works at the highest level of government.
- Developing and launching the National Multisectoral Nutrition Strategic Costed Plan (by the MSP) and mobilizing domestic resources to implement it.
- Strengthening, institutionalizing and operationalizing subnational structures within government structures.

## PROGRESS TOWARDS SUN 3.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)

### → SO.1 Strengthen and sustain strong policy and advocacy environments

A multisectoral nutrition strategy is being developed and a strategic plan is under way with the collaboration of national and international consultants. Subnational stakeholder meetings took place throughout 2021 both in person and virtually to collect data and inputs on policy implementation. Meetings with lawmakers and ministries are planned to advocate for funds. Most ministries and agencies have policies but lack implementation capacity. The SUN Civil Society Alliance of Liberia (SUNCSAL) leads advocacy efforts and lobbies meetings to mobilize domestic resources for nutrition and advocate for the approval of the Code of Marketing Breast Milk Substitutes (CMBS).

### → SO.2 Develop and align shared country priorities for action

Programme implementation priorities are set with targets for each line ministry. During the joint annual assessment process, the MSP identified priorities that are used to guide the activities of SUN networks and stakeholders in other countries. In 2021, lawmakers committed to championing the approval of the CMBS into law. Dialogues within the framework of the United Nations Food Systems Summit highlighted the need for nutrition-sensitive sectors, including the Ministry of Agriculture as a stakeholder to be mobilized.

### → SO.3 Build and strengthen country capacity

Capacity gaps have been identified and technical assistance requirements drafted to attend to MSP stakeholder capacity needs in advocacy, monitoring and evaluation tools, fundraising and resource mobilization.

### → SO.4 Ensure governance of SUN that promotes country leadership and responsibilities of government, aligns the resources of all SUN Movement stakeholders behind country priorities and strengthens 360 mutual accountability

Governance and coordination structures are institutionalized within the national Government and are in progress at the subnational level. However, this is only in a technical capacity. The MSP has advocated for the SUN Secretariat to be moved to the level of the Offices of the Vice-President or First Lady to promote leadership and position nutrition in the political agenda. The Minister of Agriculture, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, facilitated the formation of a Food Security and Nutrition Coordination Committee co-chaired by directors of nutrition (Ministry of Health) and food security (Ministry of Agriculture) to strengthen collaboration/coordination on these issues.