

Namibia



Joined Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement: September 2011

National multi-stakeholder platform for nutrition: Food and Nutrition Security Inter-Agency Steering Committee

SUN government focal point/country coordinator: Ms. Marjorie van Wyk, Senior Nutritionist and Chief Health Programme Officer

COUNTRY NUTRITION STATUS

→ Annual country nutrition indicators from the Global Nutrition Report:

<https://globalnutritionreport.org/resources/nutrition-profiles/africa/southern-africa/namibia>

● National multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

- MSP annual action plan exists

● Subnational nutrition coordination mechanism

- Subnational MSPs exist
- Subnational MSPs have annual action plans

●● National nutrition plan

Food and Nutrition Security Policy 2021–2030 –

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/national-nutrition-plan-namibia>

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/national-nutrition-plan-1-namibia>

<https://scalingupnutrition.org/resource-library/national-nutrition-plan-2-namibia>

● 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

- Developing Namibia's Food and Nutrition Security Coordination Structures with an efficient governance ecosystem at all levels.
- Working with United Nations agencies and the private sector to create formal networks to ensure better coordination, alignment and synergies.
- Establishing a SUN country coordinator or political focal point to complement the current SUN technical focal point at the highest level of government.
- Conducting a nutrition budget analysis.

2021 SHARED COUNTRY GOOD PRACTICE

Topic: Multi-stakeholder collaboration

Title: Key milestones in food systems and nutrition

About: In 2021, under the motto "Joining hands towards affordable, healthy and nutritious locally produced food", Namibia's Prime Minister launched the Revised National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, Implementation Action Plan and coordination structures – the result of a highly participatory process.

PROGRESS TOWARDS SUN 3.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)

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

In December 2021, after a highly participative process, Namibia finalized and launched its revised and updated Food and Nutrition Security Policy, accompanied by a costed Implementation Action Plan and national and subnational coordination structures. This process helped refocus all sectors and stakeholders on the centrality of nutrition. This momentum will be used to set up an ideal nutrition governance ecosystem and ensure compliance. Advocacy and mutual accountability will be key elements to ensure the success and timely impact of the Revised National Food and Nutrition Security Policy for Namibia.

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

The recently revised Food and Nutrition Security Policy, together with Namibia's participation in the dialogues at the Food Systems Summit, as well as the commitments of the Government and the Civil Society Alliance at the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, brought stakeholders together to discuss, align and prioritize. The ongoing development of the Food and Nutrition Security Coordination Structures will enable multiple stakeholders in Namibia to come together, share progress and challenges, develop priorities and joint strategies and monitor and report progress on actions taken.

→ SO.3 Build and strengthen country capacity

A comprehensive framework for coordination structures at the national and subnational levels is in place and now needs to be put into practice. There has been growing collaboration between the Government, Civil Society Alliance (including academia) and United Nations agencies in this process, as well as great interest from the private sector to become part of the system. Next steps are to operationalize the structure in smart and innovative ways, and to establish an official SUN Business Network and revive and strengthen the UN Nutrition Network.

→ 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

The role and establishment of a SUN country coordinator or political focal point at the highest level of government, who would complement the current SUN technical focal point, needs to be discussed and decided upon, as well as how the work of the SUN technical focal point can be supported, given the multiple commitments and high workload that this position demands.