

Nigeria



Joined Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement: November 2011

National multi-stakeholder platform for nutrition: SUN Movement Nigeria

SUN government focal point/country coordinator: Dr. Binyerem Ukaire, Director and Head of Nutrition Division, Department of Family Health, Federal Ministry of Health

COUNTRY NUTRITION STATUS

→ Annual country nutrition indicators from the Global Nutrition Report:

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

● National multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

Date established: 2012

● MSP annual action plan exists

● Subnational nutrition coordination mechanism

● Subnational MSPs exist

● Subnational MSPs have annual action plans

●●● National nutrition plan

National Multi-sectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition (NMPFAN) 2021–2025 –

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

● 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

- Finalizing and operationalizing the strategic plan of action for the SUN Movement in Nigeria.
- Strengthening the SUN Secretariat in terms of infrastructure and human capacity.
- Improving domestic resource mobilization for nutrition and increasing resource tracking (allocation, release and accessibility) for nutrition.

2021 SHARED COUNTRY GOOD PRACTICE

Topic: Governance

Title: Overcoming obstacles in implementing policies

About: Multisectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaboration resulted in the validation of the NMPFAN, with the Federal Executive Council committing to provide funding, this overcoming the issue of disjointed stakeholder activities.

PROGRESS TOWARDS

SUN 3.0 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES (SO)

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

Nigeria has improved its policy environment, with key policy documents having been reviewed and updated. The NMPFAN and its implementation plan were approved by the National Council on Nutrition (NCN) and the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN) was reviewed. The Infant and Young Child Feeding Policy was reviewed and updated as the Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) Policy, with MIYCN Guidelines currently in development. The Government has also approved two weeks paid paternity leave for public servants so that fathers can help mothers exclusively breastfeed.

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

The approved NMPFAN, which cuts across all sectors working on nutrition, has brought together stakeholders to work towards common country priorities. The plan aligns these stakeholders to scale up priority high-impact nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions with a focus on those who are most vulnerable, especially women, children and internally displaced persons. The country's participation at the 2021 Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit resulted in the development of countrywide commitments and active participation in the global event.

→ SO.3 Build and strengthen country capacity

The Government has committed funding, with a budget line created for nutrition at most ministries, departments and agencies. This has been captured in the Government's Medium-Term National Development Plan (MTNDP) 2021–2025, which increases opportunities to strengthen country capacity. Focus has been placed on the need to build the capacity of programme implementers as a priority and to provide a conducive macroeconomic environment that will help improve nutrition status. The SUN Secretariat also has limited capacity and will need strengthening too.

→ 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

Under the leadership of the focal point, the SUN MSP conducted quarterly coordination meetings of all networks, which has fostered alignment among stakeholders. The NCN is the highest decision-making body on food and nutrition in Nigeria and has been institutionalized in the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning as the secretariat responsible for multisectoral coordination with stakeholders and partners. The NCN is chaired by the Vice-President and has helped make nutrition a priority issue on the Government's agenda. There is still limited accountability for nutrition financing and poor domestic mobilization of resources for nutrition in the country.