



SUN Movement Lead Group

SUN Movement Progress and Achievements

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The past year has been marked by significant transformation – both for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and for the state of nutrition worldwide. The 65 SUN Countries and 4 Indian States of the SUN Movement, already struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic and climate shocks, are today faced with escalating food, fuel and fertilizer costs – putting their nutrition gains at risk. In response, the SUN Movement, through its new Strategy 2021-2025 (SUN 3.0), has reinforced country-led multistakeholder action that safeguards nutrition gains and recognizes that the world is facing not just a food crisis but a food and *nutrition* crisis. It is mobilizing support to SUN Countries to scale up the integration of nutrition in food systems, universal health coverage, social protection and climate change action, while prioritizing gender equity and youth action.

Country-driven, country-led

SUN Countries mobilize political commitment at the highest levels and promote ownership and coordination across sectors and stakeholders through multisectoral and multistakeholder platforms (MSPs) for nutrition. Country-appointed SUN Focal Points, often positioned within the President's, Vice President's or Prime Minister's office, lead the MSP. Collectively, they reflect on annual progress and identify nutrition priorities through the participatory SUN Joint Annual Assessment (JAA) involving all stakeholders including multiple ministries. In 2021, a record 94% of SUN Countries conducted the JAA, demonstrating exceptional engagement and commitment to multisectoral coordination to protect nutrition progress despite the challenging environment.

To date, 55 national level MSPs for nutrition have been set up and have directed the development and implementation of national nutrition plans in 48 SUN Countries, 35 of which are costed. Further, nutrition is articulated as a priority in the national development plan or strategy in 84% of SUN Countries, reflecting the effective institutionalization of nutrition. Meanwhile, SUN support for nutrition financing, reliable data and information systems and capacity strengthening have emerged as clear priorities.

SUN Movement support delivered successful United Nations Food Systems Summit and Nutrition for Growth Commitments

In 2021, the Nutrition Year of Action, the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit helped to transform the way the world tackles global malnutrition, while the first United Nations Food Systems Summit helped to transform the way the world produces, consumes and thinks about food. More than 71% of SUN Countries developed a national food systems pathway that includes nutrition and 92% made N4G commitments, with SUN Focal Points playing key roles - a remarkable volume of commitments. Additionally, 14 SUN Focal Points were appointed as their national food systems convenor, building the linkages between food systems and

good nutrition. The SUN Movement now collaborates closely with the newly established UN Food Systems Coordination Hub at the global and country levels, to apply the lessons learned from the SUN Movement's multisectoral, multistakeholder approach to position nutrition prominently in food systems transformation pathways.

Support during the COVID-19 pandemic and the global food and nutrition crisis

In 2021, an estimated 45 million children under five suffered from wasting, 149 million had stunted growth, and 39 million were overweight. The unprecedented disruptions in global markets due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the fuel, fertilizer and food and nutrition crisis are negatively impacting nutrition gains over the past decade, threatening to push millions more into malnutrition. In response, the SUN Movement Secretariat, SUN Networks and member countries have come together through virtual regional dialogues to identify the impacts of these crises on SUN Countries, and solutions to address them. Through this process, good practices have been identified and shared to build resilience to current and future crises, while the SUN Movement has successfully advocated for nutrition to feature in national COVID-19 recovery plans, emergency response packages, and supported SUN Countries to continuously progress on national nutrition targets. As a member of the UN Global Crisis Response Group, Food Workstream, the SUN Movement has ensured that country voices are heard while needs and experiences are taken into account in the development of the global response to the current food and nutrition crisis.

With COVID-19 travel restrictions easing, the SUN Movement Coordinator resumed high-level country visits - she engaged in the Presidential launch of the National SUN 3.0 Strategy in Malawi, attended the debut of the national multisectoral nutrition plan in Mali and inaugurated the SUN Youth Network in Côte d'Ivoire. At the global level, the SUN Coordinator advocated for nutrition through high-level engagements in Paris, Stockholm, Rome, Brussels, New York and Washington, D.C. She represented the SUN Movement at the World Health Assembly, UN High Level Political Forum panels, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa Summit, Stockholm +50, UN Food System Summit, Nutrition for Growth Summit, G20 roundtable on nutrition, among others, and will be participating in the upcoming Global Climate Conference (COP27), UN General Assembly, and the 50th Session of the Committee on World Food Security to leverage country perspectives and needs.

Towards nutrition targets

The SUN Movement, following the SUN 3.0 approach to institutionalize nutrition in country systems and strengthen and align collaboration behind country-driven, country-led nutrition priorities, is better positioned to ensure that nutrition remains a priority and nutrition gains are not undermined. The SUN Movement Secretariat has been restructured, including the establishment of four regional hubs in Dakar, Nairobi, Bangkok, Panama, and a Convergence Hub based in Geneva to support fragile and conflict affected SUN Countries. This regional approach is already promoting effective sharing of knowledge and practices and leveraging country resources to jointly strengthen nutrition capacities within and between regions to advance their food systems and nutrition commitments. Similarly, the SUN Global Support System, comprising the SUN Business Network, SUN Civil Society Network, UN Nutrition, SUN Donor Network and the SUN Movement Secretariat, has strengthened its coordination and joint action to work "together as one" in support of SUN Countries achieving their nutrition targets.

While the significant progress made in improving malnutrition over the past decade is threatened by the COVID-19 pandemic and the global food and nutrition crisis, clear opportunities are emerging. SUN Countries have strongly voiced their commitment to nutrition forming part of national response plans, for increased investment in healthy, diversified diets and locally produced nutritious foods, and the placement of nutrition firmly within their healthcare, food systems, social protection and climate change pathways. SUN Countries, with support from all SUN Movement members and partners, have the opportunity and political will to make the systemic transformations that will build social and economic resilience against current and future crises.

