

## SUN Movement Executive Committee Call

29 September 2022, 15:00 - 17:30 CEST (virtual)

### Summary note

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#### Participation

**ExCom Participants:** Connell Foley and Gladys Mugambi (Co-Chairs), Karima Al-Hada'a (Regional), Christine Campeau (CSN), Azucena Dayanghirang (SE Asia), Augustin Flory (Finance), Cecilia Gamboa (Latin America), George D. Kembo (Southern Africa), Mathews Mhuru (Regional), Patricia N'Goran (Francophone Africa), Abigail Perry (UN Nutrition), Kiran Rupakhetee (Central and South Asia), Florence Sibomana (Youth alternate for Mike Khunga), El Hadji Momar Thiam (MEAL/Data Alternate for Richmond Aryeetey), Gerda Verburg (SUN Movement Coordinator), Neil Watkins (SDN), Caroline Wilkinson (Humanitarian)

**Apologies:** Richmond Aryeetey (MEAL/Data), George Baffour (East and Central Africa), Mike Khunga (Youth), Andrew Kirkwood (UNOPS) and Matt Kovac (SBN)

**Observers:** *Alternates:* Felix Phiri (Southern Africa), Helena Guarin (SDN), Richard Pendame (CSN), Eugenia Villalobos (Latin America), Ibis Ivy King-Harry (Regional); UNOPS: Jean-Francois Laurent (on behalf of Andrew Kirkwood) *Networks:* Emily Henegan, Ritta Shine (SBN); Stineke Oenema (UNN), Melanie Bruns (SDN), Christopher Twiss, Barbara Rehbinder (CSN) *Others:* Ilaria Schibba (WFP), Anna Horner (WFP), Teresa Fasig (EC); SMS: Marcy Vigoda, Maria Pizzini, Paul Mazza, Elena Gaino, Eve Gossiaux, Francisca Gomez Cisterna, Judith Kabore, Kendra Siekmans, Marcy Vigoda, Sonia Ancellin-Panzani, Srikanth Eadara, Tendai Gunda, Zahra Inayat

Mary Mpereh (on behalf of George Gyan Baffour)

**Agenda** (click to jump to [summary](#))

1. [Welcome and approval of meeting agenda](#)
2. [SUN countries' priorities](#)
3. [Responding to SUN countries' needs: a shared direction](#)
  - a. [Update from Finance Task Team](#)
  - b. [draft GSS Action Plan](#)
4. [Update on MEAL system redesign](#)
  - a. [revision of Joint Annual Assessment](#)
  - b. [indicators of success](#)
  - c. [Mutual Accountability Framework](#)
5. [Youth roadmap \(for engagement\)](#)
6. [SUN Movement Global Gathering](#)
7. [AoB](#)
8. [Summary of agreed action points and closing remarks](#)

## Decisions

- The ExCom adopted the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) implementation plan and agreed that the pilot phase will be rolled out with results presented to the ExCom in 2023.
- The ExCom agreed in principle to support the planning of the next Global Gathering in the fourth quarter (September-December) of 2023.

## Follow up Action Points

1. SMS will work with Co-Chairs to facilitate a process to identify new alternatives for the seats that will soon be vacated by Cecilia Gamboa and Felix Phiri.
2. The Regional SUN Government Focal Point for Francophone Africa shared three asks on behalf of the region:
  - a. ExCom members are encouraged to support and participate in the high level event organized by Cote d'Ivoire in the framework of the AU Year of Nutrition on 7-8 December 2022.
  - b. The SUN Movement Secretariat will engage with WFP and other partners to share examples of South-South exchanges on the SUN website.
  - c. The ExCom was encouraged to support more countries in finalising Cost of Hunger studies.
3. SUN Countries are welcomed to share their feedback and suggestions regarding the alignment of the global response to the food and nutrition crisis with their current commitments and priorities.
4. The SUN Movement Coordinator encouraged ExCom representatives from countries and networks who are seeking support on how to connect nutrition with food systems, climate change or other agendas, to clearly articulate and share their demands/gaps for which support is needed with the GSS (SMS and networks) who will work with them to find the right connection/partner to provide support.
5. Comments on the Knowledge Management Action Plan, Capacity Strengthening Plan and MEAL System redesign received during the discussion, in the chat and via email, will be reviewed for incorporation as appropriate by the SMS in collaboration with the GSS (see [Annex 1](#))
6. The Co-Chairs reminded all ExCom members that they are welcome to send comments directly to Augustin in relation to the work of the Finance Task Team by email and encouraged everyone to participate in the Finance Task Team meeting on Thursday 27 October (invite shared).
7. GSS will work to further flesh out ways of working, refine the action plan and bring it back to the ExCom for discussion and endorsement in December 2022.
8. ExCom was encouraged to support the launch of the JAA process in Oct/Nov and participate in the briefing workshops organized for in-country dialogue (invite to be sent by SMS).
9. SMS will reach out to Executive Committee members to join discussion with the MEAL/KM Advisory Group regarding a light touch review of the Indicators of Success (invite shared for 1 November 2-4pm Geneva).

10. The ExCom should nominate 2-3 ExCom members to work with the SMS in adapting the existing Mutual Accountability questionnaire for use at the end of this year or early next year, prior to their next retreat.
11. The SMS will revise the MAF implementation plan to include the role of the Finance Task Team as part of the ExCom MAF.
12. ExCom Youth Representative to report back on success of roadmap implementation at a date to be agreed with Co-Chairs.
13. The SMS will coordinate the development of a 2023 Global Gathering host proposal for the Executive Committee's review and endorsement at the December 2022 Executive Committee meeting.

### Summary note

#### **Agenda Item 1: Welcome and approval of meeting agenda**

The co-chairs opened the meeting, welcomed all participants and reminded the ExCom that the discussions will proceed on the assumption that all ExCom members have reviewed the background documents before the meeting and are prepared to engage as well as take decisions as required. The agenda was approved and participants were reminded that interpretation services were available in French and English.

#### **Agenda Item 2: SUN countries' priorities** *[for information and discussion]*

SUN country representatives on the ExCom were given the floor to raise any country/regional issues.

##### *ExCom membership updates*

**Cecilia Gamboa** from Costa Rica announced that she is retiring from her institutional role at the Ministry of Health in Costa Rica and therefore will be stepping down as the ExCom Representative for Latin America as of December. Eugenia Villalobos (CEN-CINAI, Ministry of Health, Costa Rica) will fill her seat and a new alternate for the Latin American region will be identified. **Felix Phiri (Malawi)**, alternate ExCom member (Southern Africa) announced that his term is ending as of 1 October 2022. The ExCom thanked both for their highly valued role, service and support in the SUN Movement.

##### *Patricia N'Goran - Western and Central Africa - francophone Africa seat*

Ms. N'Goran informed the ExCom that francophone countries have already convened regionally three times. The following asks have emerged from these meetings (and beyond):

1. **AU Year of Nutrition Event**: Encouraged ExCom to support and participate in the high level event organized by Cote d'Ivoire in the framework of the AU Year of Nutrition on 7-8 December 2022. The focus of the meeting will be on nutrition resilience and the integration of nutrition in food security planning/crisis response.
2. **Best practices & South-South cooperation**: Highlighted the importance of making the Movement truly country-led and the value of supporting South-South exchange and the documentation of best practices. Highlighted the good example of the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition [CERFAM](#), based in Abidjan, and that more visibility should be given by SUN to its work. Proposed the SUN Movement to engage with WFP with the goal of sharing these practices on the SUN website.
3. **AU Cost of Hunger studies**: 21 countries have conducted such studies. The ExCom was encouraged to support more countries in finalising studies since highlighting the cost of

inaction on nutrition is a key element to support our advocacy for more investment for nutrition.

Other SUN Country representatives signalled the toll of the compounding crises (food and nutrition, finance, COVID, dengue, conflict and climate-driven) which are having direct impacts on communities across SUN Countries.

The Co-Chairs reminded the ExCom of a recent series of webinars facilitated by the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) over the summer aimed at sharing the experiences and good practices of SUN countries in addressing the food and nutrition crisis. Summaries can be found at the SUN website: [Anglophone Africa](#), [Francophone Africa](#), [Latin America and Caribbean](#), [Asia](#).

### Discussion

The ExCom Representative for UN Nutrition (Abigail Perry) welcomed discussion (or exchange by email after the meeting) with SUN countries in relation to their perceived level of engagement and focus by the international community in response to the food and nutrition crisis. Recognising several recent discussions and significant events (including G7 and UNGA [USAID/UNICEF](#) events) which aim to mobilize resources, SUN Country Representatives were asked if they feel that these commitments and initiatives will align behind what they are doing to mitigate the consequences of the crises. It was acknowledged that often global events and initiatives can be disconnected to the reality of what is happening in countries. Hearing from SUN Countries what can be done would be very helpful to ensure that the ExCom can play its role in helping to bridge the gaps. The SUN Movement Coordinator has offered the support of the SMS to work with the UN system and the ExCom to ensure that the USD 280 million pledged at this year's UNGA is invested in ways that can be owned by countries themselves in support of their existing N4G commitments on wasting.

UN Nutrition and WFP in particular also offered support to strengthen the Convergence Hub in navigating this acute time over the next 18+ months where effective support to SUN Countries is critical. Yemen was highlighted as an example of good cooperation between the UN and the SUN Focal Point and offers lessons for other SUN Countries who are part of the Convergence Hub.

More clarity was requested by ExCom Regional Rep, Karima Al-Hada'a, on how the UN Global Action Plan (GAP) on wasting, will benefit countries, especially with regards to finance. ExCom Rep from UN Nutrition, Abigail Perry, was able to share that there is an updated joint plan on wasting, which included financing needs, adapted from the UN Global Action Plan on wasting - along with a call to action - that builds on existing GAP roadmaps and is due to be jointly launched by UN agencies once the right opportunity is identified. This includes financing needs and was developed following donor feedback from a few months ago re. prioritisation in the context of broader nutrition plans.

The SUN Movement Coordinator highlighted the significance of a recent UNGA high-level side event, the [African Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition \(22 September 2022\)](#) attended by the heads of state of 9 SUN Movement countries (Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda), the AFDB President and the African Union Commission (AUC). The meeting was convened in

the context of the AU Year of Nutrition with a focus on stunting. In the coming weeks, the Coordinator will work with SUN Country Focal Points and networks in these countries to discuss follow-up.

**Follow up action points:**

1. SMS will work with Co-Chairs to facilitate a process to identify new alternates in the seats that will soon be vacated by Cecilia Gamboa and Felix Phiri.
2. The Regional SUN Government Focal Point for Francophone Africa shared three asks on behalf of the region:
  - ExCom members are encouraged to support and participate in the high level event organized by Cote d'Ivoire in the framework of the AU Year of Nutrition on 7-8 December 2022.
  - The SUN Movement Secretariat will engage with WFP and other partners to share examples of South-South exchanges on the SUN website.
  - The ExCom was encouraged to support more countries in finalising Cost of Hunger studies.
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4. The SUN Movement Coordinator encouraged ExCom representatives from countries and networks who are seeking support on how to connect nutrition with food systems, climate change or other agendas, to clearly articulate and share their demands/gaps for which support is needed with the GSS (SMS and networks) who will work with them to find the right connection/partner to provide support.

**Agenda Item 3: Responding to SUN countries' needs: a shared direction [for discussion and support]**

The ExCom was presented with a summary of the response to-date to SUN Countries' needs by the GSS. This included the main priorities of and progress by the GSS, highlights of the Capacity Strengthening and Knowledge Management action plans and an update on the work of the Finance Task Team.

*Update on Global Support System (GSS) response to country priorities, including the Capacity Strengthening Plan and KM MEAL Action Plan [Marcy Vigoda, SMS Director].*

- **The SMS interim model is nearly fully staffed.** SMS Regional Representatives (all from the respective regions) onboarded and the full staffing of the Dakar Hub as a pilot, nearly complete. Expectations, particularly in regions, are high and given the light staffing of the interim model, have to be managed. Secondments and JPO arrangements continue to be explored.
- **SMS Regional Representatives have been formally introduced to all nutrition stakeholders in their regions** through missions in Dakar, Nairobi and Panama (mission to Bangkok Hub in mid-October.) Hub action plans with clear KPIs are being finalized (see Francophone Africa Hub action plan [here](#) and Anglophone Africa Hub action plan [here](#)). The regional proximity of SUN to countries is appreciated by stakeholders on the ground. Convergence Hub has also been launched via a webinar and action plan has been prepared - currently refining ways of working.

- **SMS Regional Representatives commencing country-driven technical missions with specific deliverables.** These include the provision of support with the development of new MSP action plans, the mapping of capacity and gaps at country level as well as identification of good practices for broader sharing. The first mission has been conducted in Botswana, with 12 planned until the end of the year: Tajikistan, Sao Tomé, Djibouti, Mauritania, Laos, Philippines, Bangladesh, Lesotho, Eswatini, Ecuador, El Salvador and Sudan.
- **In line with SUN 3.0 focus, networks of the GSS are also increasing regional presence and decentralisation.** The aim is to ‘work as one’ and optimize SUN capacity in support of countries. The SUN Business Network (SBN) is deploying its first regional member (Anglophone Africa) to Nairobi in October; the Civil Society Network (CSN) is in the process of establishing SUN regional representatives and UNN is supporting engagement with regionally-based UN agencies.
- **A Capacity Strengthening Plan** (see [here](#)) has been developed with 6 key elements that reflect priorities communicated by SUN countries. Plan covers two main dimensions: 1) onboarding FPs through mentoring, and leadership courses; and 2) continuous learning through a buddy system and e-learning. Deepening partnership with FAO to expand and update e-learning modules is part of the plan.
- **Knowledge Management.** A knowledge management action plan (see [here](#)) which was developed with broad inputs, places immediate focus on the identification, documentation and dissemination of good practices and lessons learnt in order to foster more peer-to-peer exchanges on areas on which countries are seeking support and inspiration: -coordination, advocacy, financing for nutrition, MEAL and information systems, nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific activities. Good practices are being included on SUN website (see [here](#)) and other ways of dissemination are being explored.
- A growing number of **peer-to-peer exchanges between countries** are taking place. 11 have been carried out, or are planned by the end of this year. Three in LAC, five in francophone Africa, one in Asia and two in anglophone Africa covering a wide range of topics (e.g. creating a youth network, improving nutrition financing and information systems etc.).
- A **multi-stakeholder process has been initiated to respond to the evolving technical assistance** requests received through the Joint Annual Assessment (JAA) and through the wider GSS. A global tracker for all requests received through the GSS has been created. Requests are now systematically reviewed by the Regional Hubs with the SUN FPs and network representatives at the national level, and then informally triangulated at regional GSS level with available solutions and funding. The process will be further strengthened over the coming months, including through a roundtable with TA providers, users and donors to undertake a mapping and gap analysis, development of a CSN roster of civil society TA providers, and the work of the Finance Task Team (FTT) on the Finance Capacity Development Platform. There will be light revisions to the TA questions in the JAA. Remaining funds from the SUN Pooled Fund 2.0 are being used to meet some of the current TA needs. The GSS is further developing a new proposal for a coordinated response to mission-critical capacity strengthening and technical assistance requests in the future.
- **Regional webinars to discuss and disseminate good practices in response to the global food and nutrition security crisis** took place (see [here](#)). Eight briefs being



developed focus on how systems and resilience are being strengthened at country level and will be shared on the website and disseminated.

- **Short-term priorities articulated by SUN countries:** strengthened multi-stakeholder platforms and information systems, nutrition financing and advocacy campaigns to bring nutrition back to the political agenda, and stronger alignment of donors/financiers in SUN countries behind the national nutrition plans and national priorities. The GSS looks forward to working closely with the ExCom to ensure that these priorities are met with the needed support and engagement of the whole Movement.
- **Regional Gathering in Panama 13-15 December 2022.** Agenda is being built on priorities expressed by LAC countries: financing for nutrition and advocacy, action planning for the implementation of food systems pathways, building of multi-sectoral information systems and integration of nutrition in social protection and other nutrition sensitive sectors.

### Discussion

The emphasis given to the strengthening of MSPs at country level was welcomed as well as the role of regional representatives in ensuring adequate functioning of MSPs. It was mentioned that special emphasis should be given to ensuring space and support to Civil Society Alliances.

Feedback was provided in the discussion, the chat box and by email and is summarised in [Annex 1](#).

### Follow Up Action Points:

5. Comments on the Knowledge Management Action Plan, Capacity Strengthening Plan and MEAL System redesign received during the discussion, in the chat and via email, will be reviewed for incorporation as appropriate by the SMS in collaboration with the GSS (see [Annex 1](#)).

### Agenda Item 2.a: Update on Finance Task Team (see [here](#))

The ExCom Finance Expert, Augustin Flory, gave a [presentation](#) on the progress of the Finance Task Team (FTT) against its work plan. Over the past quarter, the Task Team has done the following:

- Supported Tanzania and Mauritania in the planning of **resource mobilization roundtables**. Two distinct areas have emerged. The first is to take a more **systematic and structured approach to finance and resource mobilization beyond the development of costed nutrition plans**. The second area of need is related to support in **identifying financing sources or pathways to finance their plans**. Next steps have been agreed with Tanzania and Mauritania.
- **Interim tools** to support countries are being developed (a **resource mobilization readiness checklist** and a **menu of financing pathways** for nutrition).
- The FTT with the SMS will continue to develop practical tools to support countries' resource mobilization efforts. This may take the form of guidance notes, best practice

examples, and/or eLearning modules. Budget support for these activities will come from the SMS.

- **Enhancing joined-up support by the GSS in financing:** Augustin Flory held calls with the GSS to discuss how to ensure the support of the GSS in financing is more systematic and joined up. GSS colleagues agreed that there is not yet a clear process for engaging in a more systemic approach to support SUN Countries in their financing needs. GSS colleagues have agreed to include clear and actionable **joint commitments** in the **GSS action plan**.
- **Advocacy and technical input for priority events and initiatives:**
  - ◆ Augustin Flory has joined several calls with the African Leaders for Nutrition (ALN) to help shape the process for developing **nutrition financing targets for the Year of Nutrition**. The Executive Council of the AU has given ALN and the African Union Commission a mandate to define targets. Next step is for ALN to develop targets with the support of consultants by the end of March 2023.
  - ◆ Together with the SUN Movement Coordinator and SMS, Augustin has engaged with new Lead Group Member, Mansur Muhtar, Vice President, Islamic Development Bank, in relation to **increasing the IsDB's role in development and nutrition financing**.
- **Technical guidance:** FTT has produced a note outlining opportunities for nutrition with **debt swaps**. The key conclusion is that debt swaps are a **viable option to increase resources for nutrition, but only for very limited cases** and thus are not a financing tool that is available for a lot of countries in the short term.
- **Finance Capacity Development Platform:** A consultant began work in August to develop the design of this new platform – the concept of which was approved by the Lead Group in September 2021. Invitations to consultations on design options (the 'what' and the 'how') will be shared with ExCom members, the Coordinator, GSS and others. The Finance Task Team will meet at the end of October to discuss preliminary design options and agree on recommendations of the final report. **ExCom members are invited to attend this Finance Task Team meeting**. On 6 December, recommendations for the platform will be presented for approval by the ExCom.

### Discussion

The Coordinator called upon all ExCom members to help identify experts on technical assistance and capacity strengthening for nutrition financing. She further encouraged countries who have costed national nutrition plans with commitments of domestic funding to reach out to the SMS and networks who will do their utmost to support the organisation of a funding roundtable as the work continues to set up and start the platform (FCDP).

### Follow up action points:

6. The Co-Chairs reminded all ExCom members that they are welcome to send comments directly to Augustin in relation to the work of the Finance Task Team by email and encouraged everyone to participate in the Finance Task Team meeting on Thursday 27 October (invite shared).



**Agenda Item 2.b: GSS action plan** (see document [here](#))

Emily Heneghan (SBN global coordinator) explained that the draft action plan was developed based on the feedback received at the ExCom retreat in May. **Support to countries** was elevated to top priority and note was taken on the need for special attention needed to **support “nexus-countries”**. A lot of joint GSS work is happening on **communication and advocacy**, e.g. around AU Year of nutrition, COP27, MEAL & KM and the JAA as well as joint Technical Assistance (TA) tracking. A joint GSS mission to Rwanda and the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in Rwanda was undertaken with the Coordinator. It was noted that high level country visits are instrumental in mobilising political commitment and funding (Dr Kiran).

*Discussion*

Feedback on the GSS draft action plan was shared in the discussion, in the chat box and by email (see summary in [Annex 1](#)). Karima Al-Hada’a noted the valuable work done by the [nexus coalition](#) which has a food, nutrition and livelihoods work stream established in the build up to the UNFSS under David Nabarro and suggested that it could be of guidance to the Convergence Hub.

**Follow up action points:**

7. GSS will work to further flesh out ways of working, refine the action plan, reflect on input (see [Annex 1](#)) and bring it back to the ExCom for discussion and endorsement in December 2022.

**Agenda Item 4: Update on MEAL system redesign** (see [here](#)) [*for information, discussion and decision*]

Marcy Vigoda, SMS Director gave a presentation on the update of the MEAL and Knowledge Management System redesign (see [here](#)). The drive for a redesigned MEAL system is intended to contribute to better governance, in particular fostering transparency and accountability and ensuring that countries are empowered to learn and make data-informed decisions.

The SMS Director gave a brief review of the 7 action streams undertaken to improve the MEAL system:

1. Strengthening the Joint Annual Assessment (JAA) process
2. Increasing the focus on knowledge management
3. Expanding the MEAL/KM Advisory Group (AG) with country voices
4. Assessing the baseline status for SUN 3.0 indicators of success
5. Strengthening country capacity on MEAL and knowledge management (workshops)
6. Strengthening governance using the Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF)
7. Improving access to MEAL and KM critical information on the SUN website.

[Joint Annual Assessment](#) (JAA) revision [*for ExCom information and support*]

In 2021, the JAA template was completely redesigned through a substantial consultation process with SUN countries and the GSS. Light revisions have been made to the 2022 tool

and questionnaire based on feedback. The information entered in the online JAA reporting system will be used to automatically generate the country profiles.

The revised JAA now creates space for information regarding **implementation of N4G commitments and the national food systems transformation pathways; clearer questions regarding nutrition financing; capacity assessments in relation to national nutrition plan implementation and better method for clarifying TA requests.**

The GSS is working on a **coordinated 'joint' launch**. Workshops will be organized with countries and networks to provide an overview of the JAA process and support countries to implement the JAA.

Discussion: Donor community encouraged to share JAA more widely with partners, in the form of an open source database which might allow interested parties to see where needs are - to help more quickly/nimbly match with offers of TA support - and to make data aggregable so that trends can be more easily analyzed. Questions were asked about the possibility of aggregating key areas and themes that emerge from the JAA which would be very helpful.

**Follow up action point:**

8. ExCom was encouraged to support the launch of the JAA process in Oct/Nov and participate in the briefing workshops organized for in-country dialogue (invite to be sent by SMS).

[SUN 3.0 Indicators of Success Baseline Brief](#) *[for ExCom discussion - decision to follow]*

The SMS Director provided a brief background on the development of the SUN 3.0 definitions of success and their associated indicators of success which were developed in consultation with a group of MEAL experts in mid-2021 and was followed by approval of the list of indicators by the ExCom and Lead Group in late 2021. They were designed to highlight the value of being a member of the SUN Movement and how it advances progress toward improved nutrition outcomes.

It was explained that when indicators were developed, there was no full picture yet of the specific actions that would be taken by SUN Movement stakeholders to implement the SUN 3.0 Strategy. As a result, these indicators are broad in scope and highly aspirational, both in terms of what can be achieved by 2025 and how much can be attributed to SUN Movement actions.

ExCom members have a key role to play in steering the SUN Movement in a direction that encourages all stakeholders to work together to achieve these desired results. As the time allocated only allowed for initial reflections, ExCom members who were interested were invited to discuss the indicators with the MEAL/KM Advisory Group more substantially. Neil Watkins and Abigail Perry offered support in reviewing the indicators.

**Follow up action point:**

9. SMS will reach out to Executive Committee members to join discussion with the MEAL/KM Advisory Group regarding a light touch review of the indicators of success (invite shared for 1 November 2-4pm Geneva).

## Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) Implementation Plan [for ExCom approval]

Following on from the ExCom May 2022 retreat [recommendations](#), an improved approach has been developed which will focus on co-development of a **simplified process and tools**, working with selected stakeholders from each governance group, including three countries that have agreed to pilot test the 360-degree survey with their multi stakeholder platforms in the next year. Following the pilot tests and reflection on learning from these experiences, the MAF is expected to be rolled out widely in 2023.

The SMS consulted with countries to identify three countries who will be able to engage in this process as pilots, Timor Leste, Zimbabwe and (likely) Somalia. A careful process has been developed that will cover all levels from national to global and with all stakeholders (countries, ExCom, SUN Coordinator, GSS and their constituents) to refine the survey tools jointly this year and pilot test next year. In 2023, results from the pilot phase will be presented to the ExCom for a discussion on learning, tweaking and broader roll-out. By the end of 2025, the goal is to have at least 50% of SUN countries conduct the MAF process at least once. For ExCom and GSS, an annual process was recommended. This update was to ask the ExCom to approve the process proposed.

### Discussion:

ExCom members discussed the importance of ensuring that the work related to MEAL is helping the Movement to progress. It was suggested that the accessibility of the data is a key consideration as the MEAL system continues to evolve. It was also suggested that strong links are maintained/built between MEAL indicators and national nutrition plans and nutrition sensitive actions.

### Decision:

The ExCom adopted the MAF implementation plan and agreed that the pilot phase will be rolled out with results presented to the ExCom in 2023.

### Follow up action point:

10. The ExCom should nominate 2-3 ExCom members to work with the SMS in adapting the existing MAF questionnaire for use at the end of this year or early next year, prior to their next retreat.
11. The SMS will revise the MAF implementation plan to include the role of the Finance Task Team as part of the ExCom MAF.

## Agenda Item 5: Youth roadmap [for ExCom engagement]

Florence Sibomana, ExCom Youth Alternate, gave a [presentation](#) on behalf of Mike Khunga of the SUN Youth Engagement Roadmap (see roadmap proposal [here](#)). She outlined the situation of youth and the rationale behind youth engagement. The objectives of the youth engagement roadmap were further highlighted (increased engagement of young people in SUN Movement Countries and strengthened collaboration between SUN GSS and youth) as well as how the different parts of the GSS can support them. The next phase of SUN Civil Society Network's (CSN's) flagship Youth Leaders for Nutrition programme was noted as a key opportunity for strengthening youth engagement. This programme will involve recruiting a

cohort of National Youth Coordinators who will be building national networks of youth activists in their country to community-organise and advocate for equitable nutrition policies at the local and national levels.

With regards to monitoring, evaluation and accountability, it was suggested that there should be no separate reporting on youth engagement; however it is proposed to monitor youth engagement in the Joint Annual Assessment (JAA) over the next 5 years and to report on youth engagement in the SUN Movement Annual Progress reports and that the youth representatives on the ExCom and SUN Lead Group should be able to report progress during quarterly/annual meetings on the work related to the roadmap.

#### Discussion:

Co-Chairs commended the roadmap as a great step in the right direction: from activism centred around few individuals, to true engagement as a youth movement. Success to be reviewed over time. The Coordinator welcomed the roadmap and emphasized the need for youth to make it actionable and encouraged collaboration with ExCom and Lead Group members.

It was clarified that all networks can and should join in. The CSN will sponsor and fund the growth of its youth engagement program, however the new phase is designed to give Youth Leaders (and in future National Youth Coordinators) greater autonomy and agency. The idea of a separate youth network has been discussed before but was deemed impractical and not the way to generate maximum impact for young people.

UN Nutrition has appointed a focal person for youth engagement and will liaise in support of any specific requests related to youth. The importance of unlocking funding and coordination support for youth action plans was highlighted. Civil Society has traditionally played this role which has been critical for youth engagement but support from all stakeholders is needed.

#### **Follow up action point:**

12. ExCom Youth Representative to report back on success of roadmap implementation at a date to be agreed with Co-Chairs.

#### **Agenda Item 6: SUN Movement Global Gathering** (see brief [here](#)) [for ExCom decision]

The SUN Movement Coordinator presented the agenda item, highlighting how the Global Gathering (GG) is the biggest South-South multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder knowledge sharing event. In discussions with SUN countries, their wish to have a Global Gathering (in addition to regional gatherings) that brings together all regions and global actors, to learn, share and celebrate progress is very clear.

The Coordinator asked ExCom for 'in-principle' support to start the planning process, including identifying potential hosts. As in the past, the Global Gathering agenda will be set by countries with collaboration across the GSS.

#### Discussion

Dr. Kiran Rupakhetee, ExCom SUN Government Focal Point representing Central and South Asia, Karima al-Hada'a, ExCom Regional Representative and George Kembo, SUN

Government Focal Point representing Southern Africa, very much welcomed the idea of the GG from a country perspective. They cautioned on the amount of time it takes to prepare, the variety of challenges that could complicate planning and the existing obligations that SUN Countries have to see through (e.g. N4G and Food Systems Summit commitments).

With regards to the funding of the GG, it was clarified that funds would still have to be mobilised. As the next GG will be led by a new Coordinator, sufficient time should be given for her/him to settle into the role and build sufficient ownership of the event.

In order to maximise the learning and impact of the GG for SUN countries, it was highlighted that it is critical to start with the planning of the content as early as possible. The COP 28 and/or the N4G Summit 2024 could be possible opportunities that the GG could be aligned with.

### **Decision**

The Executive Committee agreed in principle to support the planning of the next Global Gathering in the fourth quarter (September-December) of 2023.

### **Follow-up action**

13. The SMS will coordinate the development of a 2023 Global Gathering host proposal for the Executive Committee's review and decision at the December 2022 Executive Committee.

### **Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business**

#### ***UNOPS S3i Initiative Investigation Update***

The SUN Coordinator updated the ExCom **on the situation the SMS is currently facing as a result of the situation of its host, UNOPS**. Some donors, including the European Commission (EC) have halted all signing of agreements with UNOPS until an independent review of UNOPS internal control framework and policies is successfully conducted by a third party (KPMG) with reassuring results for donors. This has had a direct impact on the ability of the SMS and the EC to finalise its funding agreement. If this agreement is not signed by 10 December, funds will have to be renegotiated from scratch and funding would only be available from 2024.

The timeline is now very tight as initial findings of KPMG will be shared with the working group of the UNOPS Board as well as with the EC only in late October. SMS currently exploring possible solutions in parallel:

- a) Negotiation of an exceptional agreement under which the EC would sign the agreement on the condition being that funds would only be transferred if the UNOPS KPMG review is positive. ***(Update 17 October - this is now proceeding)***
- b) UNOPS to cover the lost income of the SMS using funding reserves
- c) Funds to be made available but routed via WFP as a last resort option.

#### ***Recent Lead Group Meeting (21 September 2022)***

ExCom Co-Chair, Connell Foley, shared his reflections on the Lead Group meeting. Overall he saw a good level of engagement and leadership commitment but found it disappointing that

unforeseen scheduling changes meant that the new Lead Group Chair could not attend the entire meeting. Now it is important to follow up with Lead Group members individually. The SUN Movement Coordinator highlighted three takeaways: 1) Clear recognition that we are currently facing a global food AND nutrition security crisis; 2) Satisfaction with Lead Group composition which is very action-oriented and motivated; 3) Great involvement of GSS and encouraged also the ExCom to work with the Lead Group members of their constituency and use their convening power.

### ***Recruitment of the new SUN Coordinator***

ExCom was informed that the vacancy announcement was extended by one week and it appears that UNICEF (who is leading recruitment) is taking on board the request to involve the ExCom in the process. Timelines remain uncertain.

### ***Future of the SUN Pooled Fund***

The SUN Movement Coordinator confirmed that it has been decided to discontinue the Pooled Fund at the end of the year. Instead a Country Coordination and Impact Fund (CCIF) concept is being developed, and will be on the agenda of the December meeting. The CCIF proposal is focusing on strengthening a systems approach to scaling up nutrition with support for technical assistance (TA), grants and capacity strengthening (CS) requests.

It was mentioned that the ***‘Senior Donor Officials’*** will meet at WFP on the sidelines of the CFS in October.

### **Agenda Item 8: Summary of agreed action points and closing remarks**

ExCom Co-Chair Connell Foley summarised the key takeaways:

- We have more clarity and satisfaction with the approach to the development of the GSS action plan and Finance Task Team direction
- JAA approach approved
- MAF implementation is endorsed
- Youth roadmap appreciated
- GG proposal approved ‘in principle’
- Indicators of success to be presented back to ExCom for approval.

Co-Chair highlighted the importance of adding indicators and timelines to plans to make them more monitorable.

Linking the Convergence Hub with countries scaling up in response to food and nutrition crises as well as providing more guidance on the ‘nexus approach’ have come out as clear needs.

We know that the Global Action Plan on Wasting exists, we need to ensure we align commitments behind that and understand what that needs to look like at the country level.

ExCom members were encouraged to volunteer for the MEAL/KM AG on the Indicators of Success discussion that will soon be scheduled as well as the Finance Task Team consultation on the Finance Capacity Development Platform at the end of October.



## **Annex 1: Feedback on background documents submitted to ExCom (from chat and email)**

### **Capacity Strengthening Action Plan**

- Better defined targets for when the system will be in place across all SUN countries, and targets for the uptake and coverage of the different sub-components by the different stakeholders were suggested so that progress can be monitored by the ExCom.
- Include capacity needs of countries operating in humanitarian-development nexus contexts, including when it comes to innovative resource mobilization approaches and high-level communication to unlock funding for SUN countries pledged at global summits.
- Consider expanding the target audience beyond SUN Government Focal Points/Country Coordinators to include key nutrition stakeholders including from other ministries, especially in relation to onboarding.
- Further outline how the peer-to-peer and buddying/mentoring approaches will work/be operationalized.
- Linking with OECD and UN Resident Coordinators will help ensure that there is alignment in all actors' capacity strengthening efforts.
- The document references a potential link to the CSN TA program, planned to be relaunched and expanded this year and integrated into the GSS program. More information is needed on this CSN TA program.
- Welcome the idea of peer-to-peer learning as part of the Regional Thematic Resource Registry, but more information needed on how this is going to work.
- The mentoring and buddying system is appreciated.
- On the 6 sub components next steps AND TARGETS: can we have clear targets for when the system will be in place across countries (e.g. mentor and buddies etc.) and targets about uptake/coverage of the FPs, their teams and other audience with each of the sub components?

### **Knowledge Management Action Plan**

- While the six priority pillars are clear and logical, the two additional activities identified for the medium-to-longer term (SUN knowledge exchange platforms and deep dive activities) require more explanation.
- Thematic areas on financing in "tree structure for good practices" financing could be strengthened and ExCom Finance Expert Augustin Flory offered support to the team.

For both plans, it was noted that it would be helpful to also see the **proposed costing of the plans** to allow a realistic assessment and feedback (Augustin Flory). SMS noted that with the mapping of the e-learning modules, clearer costing is possible.

### **Global Support System (GSS) Action Plan**

- Overall appreciation of joint action plan - the activities selected, and the emphasis on coordinated, coherent support across GSS, and collaborative, joint approach; and on strengthening modalities to work together.
- it would be important to ensure that there are clear targets, activities, SMART indicators and an articulation of cost implications in the GSS action plan. This would

help to ensure there is a common understanding of what can and cannot be delivered.

- As we are focusing more on impact on the ground, this coordination and collaboration and focus on joint approaches is going to be critical to support country led action.
- The critical challenge and opportunity for the GSS now is *how* to deliver these activities in this joint, collaborative, and strategic approach, so that the sum of the GSS support made available to countries is more than the individual parts.
  - Suggest that the GSS go further than working in an organic, open and informal way - which is stated in the document. There needs to be intentionality and this collaboration needs to be systematic in all countries where there is more than one GSS actor. How could we offer SUN countries less than this? Right now: the plan does not say much about this. The section on GSS working as one says the GSS will develop modalities of working.
- The GSS is invited to go one step further and flesh out as a next step how they will do that for each of the activities in the action plan, and to develop indicators that are more SMART than the ones currently in the plan, which are very generic and are going to be very hard to monitor.
- Suggest that this next level comes back to the Excom for discussion.
- Lastly, there is only one mention in passing to the [Capacity Strengthening plan](#) in this GSS plan, although the Capacity Strengthening plan relies heavily on the GSS and requires that capacity strengthening should be part of all plans of the movement. Can this be fleshed out also?

#### [SUN 3.0 Indicators of Success Baseline Brief](#)

- Donors would like to better understand how the indicators and processes link to the national action plans, and to ensure that nutrition sensitive action is also covered.