

Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN)
Movement Pooled Fund
Progress Report 2019



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Acronyms

CfP: Call for Proposal
CG: Consultative Group
CLT: Country Liaison Team
COI: Conflict of Interest
CRAFT: Country Results And Finance Team
CSA: Civil Society Alliance
CSN: SUN Civil Society Network
CSO: Civil Society Organisation
CS-SUNN: Civil Society for Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria
DNA: DeoxyriboNucleic Acid
FCT: Federal Capital Territory Administration
GAIN: Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GSS: Global Support System
ICA: Individual Contractor Agreement
INGO: International Non Government Organisation
MAPIM: Ministry of Agriculture, Processing Industry and Melioration
M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation
MEAL: Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MPTF: Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MSP: Multi-Stakeholder Platform
NAF: Nutrition Advocacy Fund
NGO: Non Government Organisation
NPAN: National Plan of Action for Nutrition
NSFSN: National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition
PMR: Project Monitoring and Reporting
SBN: SUN Business Network
SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timebound
SMS: SUN Movement Secretariat
SOP: Standard Operating Procedures
SUN: Scaling Up Nutrition
TA: Technical Assistance
TAN: Technical Assistance for Nutrition
UN: United Nations
UNGM: UN Global Marketplace
UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS: UN Office for Project Services
USD: United States Dollar
WFP: World Food Programme

Executive Summary

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund (the “Pooled Fund”) was established in 2017 as a source of innovative and catalytic funding to support SUN Countries’ continued efforts to end malnutrition in all its forms, informed by the success and lessons learned from the SUN Movement Phase 1 [Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) (MPTF). Hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and integrated with the broader SUN Movement stewardship arrangements, the Pooled Fund supports the delivery of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020), particularly focusing on strengthening, in SUN countries, national nutrition governance, joint implementation of national multisectoral nutrition plans, and increased capabilities of nutrition actors at national and sub-national level.

The Pooled Fund supports SUN countries Multisectoral/Stakeholder platforms’ efforts through two funding windows:

- Window 1 aims to build, or strengthen in-country participation by non-state stakeholders (civil society, private sector actors, academics, parliamentarians and journalists, among others) in national multi-stakeholder platforms.
- Window 2 aims to accelerate the coordinated delivery of nutrition interventions by members of the Multi-Stakeholder Platforms, at national and sub-national level, encouraging collaboration across key areas, via sharing and learning, to increase impact.

To this date, 65 organisations in 44 countries are receiving grants aimed at providing them with the opportunity, tools and know-how to ensure better multi-stakeholder coordination in their countries, have the voices of all important nutrition stakeholders heard at the decision-making and policy design tables, and most importantly, join forces, building on each others’ strengths, to achieve common nationally-owned objectives and targets, to ensure that no community is left malnourished and behind.

This is the second annual narrative report of the Pooled Fund project. It covers the period from January to December 2019. This period saw an important acceleration in projects and activities thanks to a 516% increase in the Pooled Fund budget, from USD 3 million at its inception, to USD 18.5 million today. Besides the continuation of projects foreseen under Window 1 to strengthen national Civil Society Alliances (cycles 1 and 2), this made the opening of two new calls possible in the summer and autumn 2019, aimed at supporting Multi-Stakeholder and Multisectoral Platforms (MSPs) deliver core nutrition interventions together in 12 countries (Window 2), and strengthening national business alliances in 13 countries.

The introduction recalls the genesis and guiding principles of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund, shares an overview of its scope, presents its governance structure, and updates on important decisions recommended and endorsed by the Consultative Group and Executive Committee in 2019.

Activities and progress managed through the Pooled Fund Team are presented in greater details in chapter 1, which sheds light on the main milestones achieved while managing ongoing projects (Window 1, cycle 1), with tailored, demand-driven M&E support and capacity building (differing in each country), and simultaneously launching two new, competitive calls for proposals.

Demand-driven, tailored tutoring of SUN Pooled Fund grant recipients, designed and delivered with a sustainability lens on, are starting to pay off, and chapters 3 and 4 present a short selection of the first success stories arising “from the field”, as well as a more encompassing overview of the concrete progress achieved in recipient countries through the first two calls.

Keeping in mind one of the core values of the SUN Movement community, to advance together and let the community benefit from such individual successes and experience, SUN Movement Pooled Fund actors fully harnessed the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning during the SUN Movement Global Gathering in Kathmandu, Nepal, in November 2019. Chapter 5 gives a succinct overview of these early country-to-country exchanges.

While this second year of Pooled Fund implementation is only starting to provide results and achievements, but also lessons and food for thought, the Pooled Fund Team is already mainstreaming -and applying- its reflection on what sustainability and promoting gender equality mean, for nutrition in SUN Movement countries, but also for the way that Pooled Fund projects are managed and implemented. Chapters 6 and 7 develop these two core issues, in the context of this still early stage of the Pooled Fund implementation.

Finally, because the release of the 2019 annual progress report coincides with a critical moment for the SUN Movement, wrapping up of the 2016-2020 Strategy and Roadmap, and reflection on the priorities and objective which will steer the design of the SUN Movement's next phase, the Pooled Fund Team has made every effort to share, in an honest and self-reflective effort, early lessons learned from the management and implementation of the early Pooled Fund projects. Chapter 8 aims to support Pooled Fund governing bodies' responsibilities and efforts to provide strategic overview and guidance. Chapter 9 concludes this effort by outlining some key issues to consider when looking ahead to 2020 and 2021, which are already embedded in the Pooled Fund 2020 Workplan and budget.

Much work still lies ahead, especially as the 61 SUN Movement countries and the Global Support System (GSS) are bracing themselves to design the next Strategy of a Movement which will allow for an acceleration of efforts at all levels, greater effectiveness of the global coordination structures leading to more impactful joint implementation and resource mobilization empowering country stakeholders to achieve results needed : improved nutrition for each child, mother, and individual in every community.

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund Team wishes you a pleasant read, and hopes that you will be as enthusiastic about the incremental and solid progress taking place in countries as you read these lines, as the team is in its day-to-day work to support and maximize every country effort towards a world without hunger and malnutrition by 2030!

1. Introduction: About the Pooled Fund

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund (the “Pooled Fund”) was established in 2017 as a source of innovative and catalytic funding to support SUN Countries’ continued efforts to end malnutrition in all its forms, informed by the success and lessons learned from the SUN Movement Phase 1 [Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) (MPTF). Hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and integrated with the broader SUN Movement stewardship arrangements, the Pooled Fund supports the delivery of the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020), particularly focusing on strengthening, in SUN countries, national nutrition governance, joint implementation of national multisectoral nutrition plans, and increased capabilities of nutrition actors at national and sub-national level.

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Window 1 aims to build, or strengthen in-country participation by non-state stakeholders (civil society, private sector actors, academics, parliamentarians and journalists, among others) in national multi-stakeholder platforms.

Window 2 aims to accelerate the coordinated delivery of nutrition interventions by members of the Multi-Stakeholder Platforms, at national and sub-national level, encouraging collaboration across key areas, via sharing and learning, to increase impact.

To date, four Calls for Proposals have been launched under these two windows, in 44 SUN countries. Two calls under Window 1 (“cycles 1 and 2”), launched respectively on 1 May 2018 and 7 December 2018, aimed to support with the creation or consolidation of national Civil Society Alliances for nutrition for an initial period of 12 and 18 months. A third call (“Window 1 cycle 3”), launched in February 2020, targets the creation and/or strengthening of national business alliances for a period of 11 months. A Window 2 Cycle 1 call was launched in the Summer 2019, open to any type of stakeholder (government or non-government), to support joint implementation and cross-network collaboration, for a period of 14 months.

Grants are managed by UNOPS and attributed to selected SUN country projects according to specific eligibility criteria and through open, transparent and competitive calls. As of 2020, the SUN Movement Pooled Fund approximately totals USD 18.5 million, a 516% increase from the program’s original go/no-go milestone of USD 3 million.

This report covers progress, achievements and challenges across the SUN Movement Pooled Fund Windows for the period 1 January to 31 December 2019. A presentation of progress for the projects funded under each Window is presented. A selection of success stories from the field, complemented by a more integrated analysis of achievements for Window 1 projects is included. Sustainability and gender equality are at the core of the Pooled Fund’s design and modus operandi, and ongoing progress across these two issues is presented in two central chapters. Finally, taking a step back the report offers initial lessons learned and important questions which will continue guiding its work in 2020. The preliminary 2019 Annual Financial Report of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund is attached in annex.

Previous years’ annual reports of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund as well as foundation documents can be found on the [SUN Movement website](#).

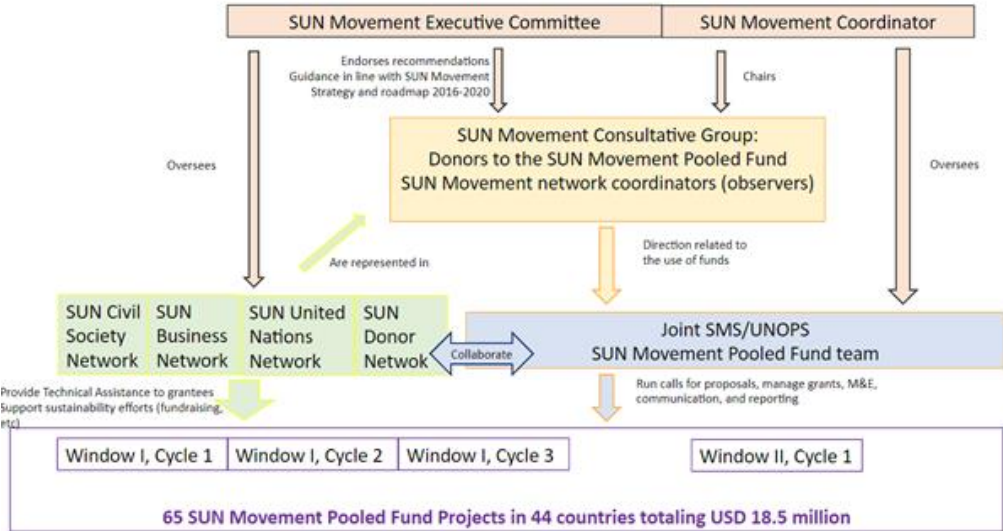
1.1 Pooled Fund Governance

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund is hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) under the same hosting terms and conditions as it hosts the SUN Movement Secretariat. To support the Pooled Fund, donors enter into bilateral legal agreements with UNOPS.

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund Consultative Group includes all donors to the Pooled Fund (Germany, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Norway, Canada and the European Commission), as well as representatives of the SUN Networks, attending as observers. Chaired by the SUN Movement Coordinator, the Consultative Group provides direction on the use of the Pooled Fund, ensuring that the scope, content and parameters of Pooled Fund Calls for Proposals (CfP), and resulting projects, contribute to achieving SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020 and its strategic objectives¹.

The team administering the Pooled Fund (Pooled Fund Team) is composed of a Pooled Fund Coordinator, part of the SUN Movement Secretariat, and one Grants Officer, one Grants Analyst and one M&E Specialist² part of the UNOPS team. It relies on external support on specific tasks (such as the review of reports) depending on the volume of work.

As a component of the overall SUN Movement stewardship, the SUN Movement Executive Committee provides strategic oversight to the Pooled Fund, ensuring that its management and direction position the Pooled Fund as an instrument which directly supports the achievement of the SUN Movement’s vision. The SUN Movement Executive Committee endorses the annual workplan and budget of SUN Movement Secretariat and Pooled Fund. On an annual basis, the SUN Movement Coordinator updates the Executive Committee on the current strategy and its implementation; and proposes possible adjustments to the SUN Movement Pooled Fund strategy to ensure its best support to the SUN Movement.



¹ A summary of the SUN Movement Consultative Group decisions for 2019 is available in annex.

² Due to the increase in number and duration of SUN Movement Pooled Fund projects and resulting high monitoring and evaluation requirements, three regional Monitoring & Quality Assurance Specialists, supervised by the Pooled Fund M&E Specialist and based in Dhaka, Addis-Ababa and Abidjan, will be joining the team in 2020.

1.2 Pooled Fund Organogram



1.3 Managing the Movement: Consultative Group Decisions in 2019

The Consultative Group endorsed the following decisions through silent procedure in May, a call in June, and a silent procedure in November 2019.

- Reorientation of SUN Pooled Fund from “last resort” funding to “catalytic and innovative” approach that supports the innovation that has an impact in SUN countries to scale up nutrition (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Revision of SUN Pooled Fund budget to accommodate one Grants Officer and three regional Monitoring and Quality Assurance Specialists to ensure efficient grant management and M&E support to a higher number of Pooled Fund projects (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Transfer of the contracts of the three Pooled Fund team members who joined the Pooled Fund Secretariat before 1 October 2018 from the Individual Contractor’s Agreement (ICA) modality to UN temporary appointments, as endorsed by the SUN Movement Executive Committee (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Decision to transfer the ownership of non-expendable equipment/assets for future Call for Proposals (Window 1 - Cycle 3 and Window 2 - Cycle 1) to grant recipients at the end of project to support the capacity development of the grant recipient (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).

Window 1

- No-cost extension of projects under the first Call for Proposals of Window 1 (Window 1 - Cycle 1) from 12 months to 18 months to allow successful completion of the projects and achievement of outcomes, taking into account the time required to set up projects during the initial periods (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Provision of top-up funding to grant recipients under Window 1 Cycle 1 who have shown a good record of implementation, to ensure the sustainability of activities, by granting the maximum budget of USD 200,000 per grant recipient (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Broadening the scope of SUN Pooled Fund to include support of the establishment and/or operationalization of country level SUN Business Networks under Window 1 by allocating fundings to pre-selected countries via World Food Program/Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).

Window 2

- Decision to launch two Call for Proposals under Window 2 with 10 projects per Call for Proposal, with a maximum project budget of USD 300,000 per project and project duration of 14 months, up to the end of December 2020 (*approved by silent procedure on 31st May 2019*).
- Amendment of the Results Framework for Window 2 by widening its scope to capture multi-stakeholder platforms (in addition to Civil Society Alliances) and at the same time, providing flexibility to the applicants to develop their own logframes tailored to their country contexts with the assistance of UNOPS’ Monitoring and Evaluation team (*CG Call on 13th and 19th June 2019*).
- Endorsement of an additional two projects under the Window 2 - Cycle 1 through silent procedure, thereby increasing the total number under this Cycle to 12 projects (*approved by silent procedure on 29th November 2019*).

1.4 Donors to the Pooled Fund

Since 2017, the following supporting governments are contributors to the Pooled Fund: Canada, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Switzerland, the European Commission, and the United Kingdom.



European Commission



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation



Irish Aid – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Global Affairs Canada



German Cooperation for International Development



Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

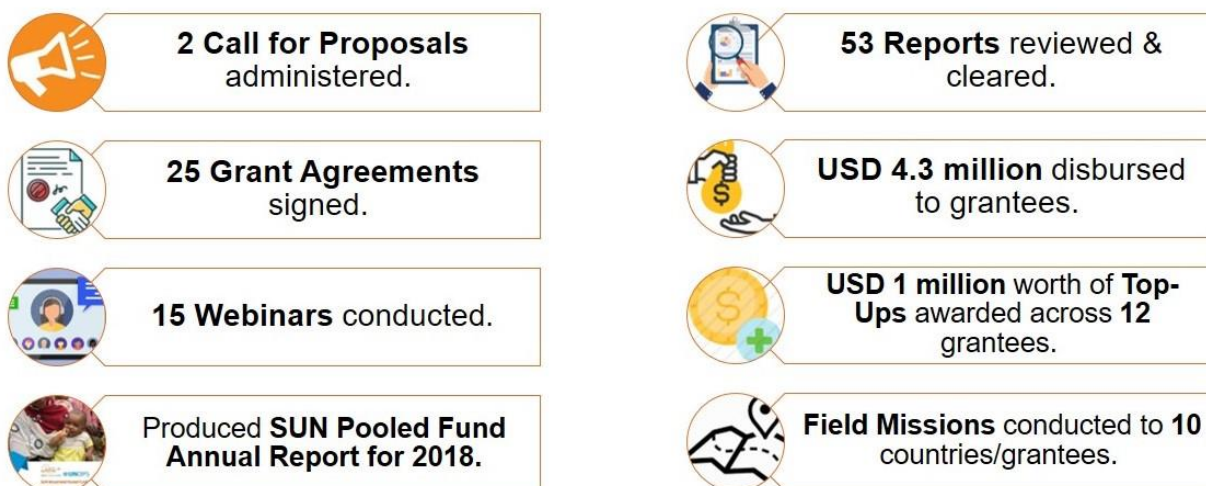


United Kingdom Department For International Development

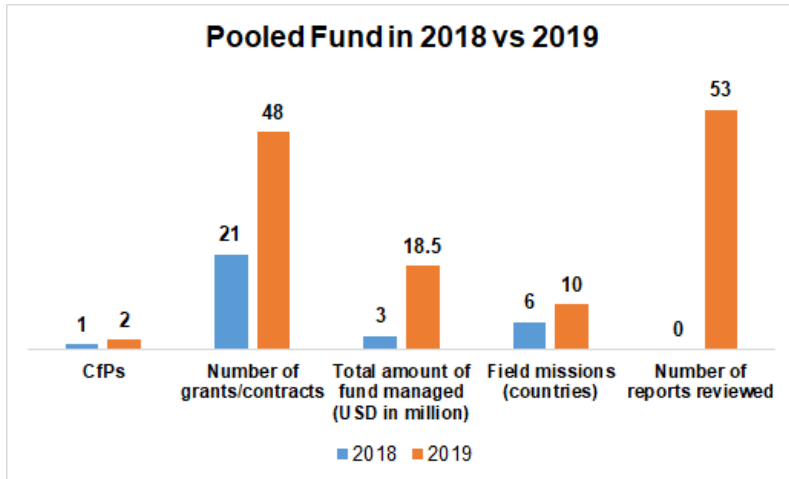
2. Spotlight on 2019 Activities by the Pooled Fund Team

The team has been committed to delivering its obligated functions in terms of grants management and administration, monitoring and quality assurance, reporting, capacity building and coordination.

2.1 Milestones 2019 At-A-Glance



Two **Call for Proposals (CfPs)** have been launched during 2019. The first one was Window 1 Cycle 2 which was issued in early 2019 to support Civil Society Alliances (CSAs) in delivering overarching goals of 2016-2020 Civil Society Network (CSN) Strategy which is also in line with SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap. The second CfP during 2019 was launched in mid-2019 subsequent to Consultative Group's



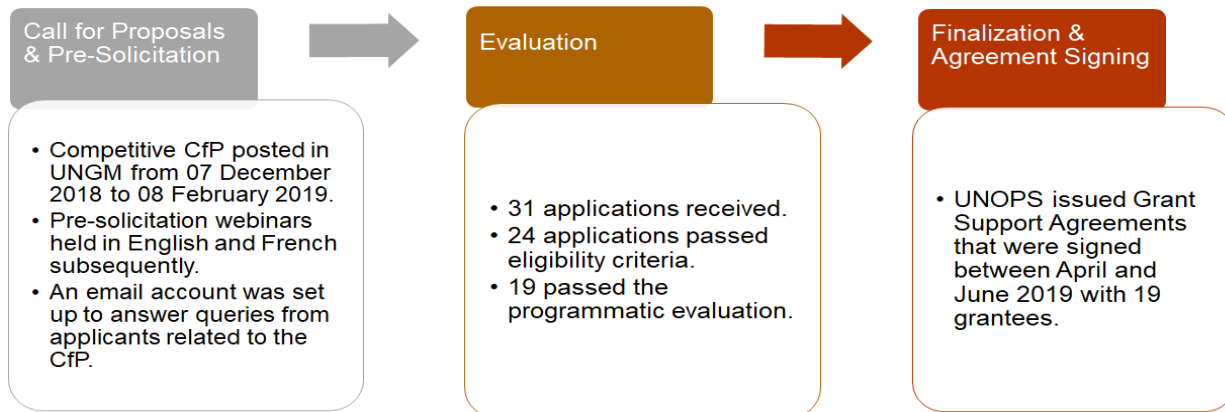
endorsement to expand the program as Window 1 based on the reference in the original Pooled Fund agreement.

The proposals were posted in the UN Global Marketplace (UNGM) in English, French and Spanish. The CfPs were also advertised by SUN Movement and SUN CSN Steering Committee through their communication channels. A two-step selection process was adopted for review of both proposals; the eligibility and compliance of the

application was reviewed at first step, followed by programmatic evaluation as second step. The evaluation committees consisted of the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS), Civil Society Network (CSN) and UNOPS. There was no Conflict of Interest (Col) in the processes.

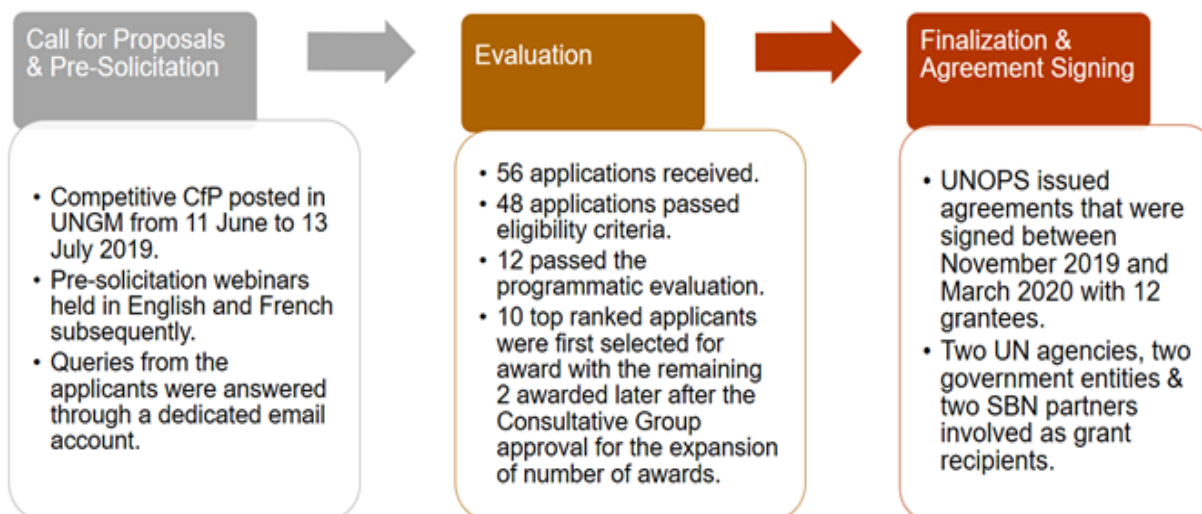
Window I Cycle II: *Strengthened participation by in-country non-state stakeholders and parliamentarians in national multi-stakeholder platforms to implement scale up nutrition plans.*

Award value at CfP : USD 4 million (allocation of up to USD 200,000 to 20 CSAs)
 Final award value : USD 3.76 million (allocation of up to USD 200,000 to 19 CSAs)
 Grant period : 18 months



Window II Cycle I: *Strengthening Multi-Stakeholder Platforms and improvement of their performance at national and especially at subnational level and collaboration across key areas, via sharing and learning, to increase impact.*

Award value at CfP : USD 3 million (allocation of up to USD 300,000 to 10 members of MSPs)
 Final award value : USD 3.8 million (allocation of up to USD 300,000 to 12 grantees)
 Grant period : 14 months



Grant Management and M&E **Webinars** were held for Window 1 Cycle 2 during 2019 in English and French. The Pooled Fund Team worked hand-in-hand with the selected grantees to ensure that they have a complete understanding of their obligations under agreement terms and conditions, the Pooled Fund Results Framework along with the indicators to report on.

Table 1: Awarded Countries under Window 1 Cycle 2

1	Afghanistan	Action for Development
2	Burkina Faso	Réseau de la Société civile pour la Nutrition Burkina Faso
3	Cambodia	Helen Keller International
4	Côte d'Ivoire	Action Contre La Faim
5	Ethiopia	Save the Children
6	Guinea (Republic of)	Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile
7	Indonesia	Nutrition International
8	Kenya	Nutrition International
9	Madagascar	Action Contre La Faim
10	Malawi	Civil Society Organizations Nutrition Alliance
11	Mozambique	Helen Keller International
12	Nepal	South Asia Infant Feeding Research Network
13	Niger	Collectif TUN (Tous Unis pour la Nutrition)
14	Pakistan	Nutrition International
15	Peru	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere International, Inc.

16	Philippines	International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
17	Tanzania	Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania
18	Zambia	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition
19	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Civil Society Organisations Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance

Table 2: Awarded Countries under Window 2 Cycle 1

1	Bangladesh	The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
2	Costa Rica	Food and Agriculture Organization
3	Ethiopia	Ministry of Health
4	Guatemala	Fundacion De La Caficultura
5	Kyrgyzstan	Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security
6	Malawi	Civil Society Organizations Nutrition Alliance
7	Nigeria	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria
8	Senegal	World Food Programme
9	Sierra Leone	FOCUS 1000
10	Tanzania	The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
11	Vietnam	Save the Children
12	Zambia	National Food and Nutrition Commission

Following the Consultative Group decision in June 2019, 12 grant recipients under Window 1 Cycle 1 have been awarded for the **top-up funding**. The aim of this top-up is to support newly created Civil Society Alliances in their efforts to sustain the nutrition interventions and project activities. Twelve grant recipients who have shown a good track record of project implementation have been topped-up with the total project budget not exceeding USD 200,000 per project, along with the extension of project implementation up to additional 6 months. This top-up funding brings the maximum budget and duration of the projects under Window 1 (Cycle 1 and Cycle 2) align to each other and hence allow easier comparison and evaluation of results. Total top-up value for all 12 recipients amounts up to USD 1 million.

Table 3: List of Window 1 - Cycle 1 Grant Recipients Awarded for Top-Up Funding

1	Burundi	Concern Worldwide
2	Cameroon	Helen Keller International
3	Chad	Alliance Sahelienne de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Durable
4	El Salvador	Centro De Apoyo De Lactancia Materna
5	Ghana	Hunger Alliance of Ghana

6	Kyrgyzstan	Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security
7	Liberia	Action Against Hunger
8	Mali	Centre Sahélien de Prestation, d'Etudes, d'Ecodéveloppement et de Démocratie Appliquée
9	Nigeria	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria
10	Senegal	Eau Vie Environment
11	South Sudan	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere International, Inc.
12	Sri Lanka	World Vision Lanka

The team reviewed and verified 53 **reports**, that included 2nd interim reports and final reports by Window 1 Cycle 1 grant recipients and 1st interim reports by Window 1 Cycle 2 grant recipients. A total of USD 4.3 million has been disbursed to Window 1 (after expenditures have been verified) and Window 2 (as first tranche after the agreement) grant recipients during 2019. The quality of the project in all of its senses (including planning, implementation, M&E, financial management, leadership roles) has also been monitored through regular **supportive supervision missions** to Pooled Fund recipient countries by UNOPS's M&E Specialist. Financial spot checks and verification of authenticity of submitted reports are also carried out with project teams during the visit. Communication and coordination with different stakeholders have also been facilitated through these missions. In addition to debriefing the grant recipient, M&E Specialists also disclose their findings to the SUN Movement Secretariat. Each presentation contains information on the interim activities and results of the project but also on the status of the Multi-Sectoral Platform and on the national Civil Society Alliance. Any gap on technical capacity identified at site is also put up to relevant entities for their necessary actions. During 2019, the M&E Specialist has visited 10 countries (Benin, Cameroon, Chad, El Salvador, Kyrgyzstan, Namibia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Senegal and Somalia). The Pooled Fund Team is also in regular contact with the grantees to ensure required support and updates to grant implementation is obtained. Findings from grantees' reports and field missions during 2018 are also evaluated to synthesize the [Annual Progress Report of the Pooled Fund for 2018](#) which was submitted to the donors in mid-2019.



UNOPS's M&E Specialist joining subnational level Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) members meeting in Naryn Province, Kyrgyzstan.



The M&E Specialist met with mayors and community leaders in Bertoua Municipality in the East Region of Cameroon.



Nutritious food cooking demonstration by local SUN CSO at Mandjou Quatiuri, East Region, Cameroon

2.2 Communication & Visibility

The Pooled Fund has developed into a larger grants program with multiple, competitive Call for Proposals (CfP), several different funding scopes, and a plethora of beneficiaries working hard to scale up nutrition. The project demands written translation of reports, CfP, and M&E products. The visibility of the Pooled Fund management is aligned with the visibility plan of the SUN Movement Secretariat, while Pooled Fund beneficiaries are encouraged to use their native branding and the SUN Movement logotype.

2.2.1 Activities & Milestones

In 2019, the Pooled Fund Team translated the Call for Proposal documents, grant documents, webinar materials into three Pooled Fund Grant Project working languages: English, French and Spanish for Window 1 - Cycle 2 and Window 2 - Cycle 1. The Pooled Fund Team also completed and released the [2018 SUN Movement Pooled Fund Annual Report](#) in June 2019.

2.2.2 Looking Ahead

The key challenge for communications and visibility for the Pooled Fund project in 2018 and 2019 was due to finalization and receipt of results from projects. The Pooled Fund Team is now finalizing the results of the first set of beneficiaries. As their projects come to a close, the Pooled Fund Team aspires to communicate those results and lessons learned to a wider audience. Since an additional grants officer joined the Pooled Fund Team in October 2019, and since additional M&E staff members will join in March 2020, the Pooled Fund Team will make use of its human resources to package the content for the Pooled Fund website. This will address the concern of underspending in the Communications budget category, increase visibility of the Pooled Fund and its beneficiaries, and continuously inform network partners who are interested in supporting in-country actors after the grant activities are over.

3. The SUN is Rising: Spotlight Stories from the Field

3.1 Kyrgyzstan

Through the SUN Pooled Fund project the Kyrgyzstan Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security aimed to strengthen the advocacy capacity and participation of ten local non-profit organizations in two provinces to address malnutrition. The success has been evident by the mobilization of local communities who become active change agents in promoting nutrition related initiatives. The alliance also built the capacity of local civil societies to enable them to come together to tackle malnutrition and build an



enabling environment for improving nutrition with equity. In 2018, the country started the development of the State Food Security and Nutrition Program. Multi-sectoral working group was created involving the Ministry of Agriculture, Processing Industry and Melioration to facilitate the development. This was further strengthened in 2019 when for the first time, the civil society organizations took part in discussions of the Food Security and Nutrition program 2019-2023. This was in recognition of the collective value add of the CSA and their commitment to addressing nutrition from a multi-sectoral lens. The CSA are now seen as a valuable partner to the government increasing the sustainability of the CSA as a key nutrition partner. Based on the criteria of “good nutrition plan”, the CSA analyzed the program and the findings were presented in the consultations. The proposals were sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Processing Industry and Melioration (MAPIM) on official letterhead and discussed together with MAPIM experts. The Nutrition Program was signed by the Prime-Minister in 2019 and it included key proposals made by the CSA. The CSA held meetings with representatives of the 11 villages identified as vulnerable and the difficulties in the sphere of food security and nutrition were discussed. The

approach of addressing nutrition needs from the high level and community level has yielded success in the form of nutrition champions. As an example, one of the champions Abdykerimov Ruslan Kadyrkulovich, the young village headman of Sary Tologoi village, one of the vulnerable villages in Tyup district. Through his work within the CSA including on right to food, advocacy and fundraising training, meetings and public hearings, he realized that there were needs and opportunities for the development of his village. He took the initiative and played a catalytic role of bringing together active young people through the Youth Committee. He further found partnership through local philanthropists, the Charo-Bol Bol charity foundation. See the full story here <http://kyrgyzmedia.com/?p=35005>

3.2 Nigeria

Civil Society for Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria prioritized gender mainstreaming, gender inclusion and advocating for high level representation at national and sub-national level. There was a focus on engaging the CSOs led by women into the subnational level coalitions and increasing women’s representation into the executive committees at the sub-national level. The project has prioritized advocating and supporting more women champions and key influencers that speak about nutrition in key decision-making processes related to legislation, policymaking, planning and budgeting.

Through advocacy, an influential and committed nutrition champion from the government has been identified. She has committed to work with the alliance to advocate for policy and institutional change and community level behaviour and work collectively with others to achieve common nutrition results for everyone, everywhere. The Permanent Secretary of Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCT) was

selected as Nutrition Champion. The pooled fund undertook extensive advocacy and targeted capacity building and also provided the first time opportunity for such a specific and targeted training on malnutrition within her administrativ area. Despite her existing knowledge of the organizations supporting the fight against malnutrition, the training provided target and useful information about the situation. “I am motivated after watching the video about malnutrition in Nigeria as it revealed to me the current burden and funding gaps for nutrition.” She committed to learn further and contribute her best to reduce the burden of malnutrition. “I will do my best to convey the documents/information provided by CS-SUNN to the office of the Honorable Secretary Health, and secure an endorsement of the FCT nutrition policy and the Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan”.



Nigeria was also successful in media engagement that became highly remarkable after several advocacy, engagement activities and training at both national and subnational level. Media coverage of nutrition events, newspaper publications and radio interviews highlighting the importance of good nutrition in the perspective of development and calling for national level commitment were the results of successful media engagement.

3.3 Philippines

The pooled fund played a catalytic role working through the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction who were awarded under Window 1 Cycle 2 to launch a national effort to combat nutrition issues through multi-level and multi-stakeholder action through stronger nutrition sensitive programming within government agencies and SUN CSA members. In August 2019, the National Convention on Nutrition Sensitive



Programs was held at the IIRR where almost a hundred delegates from the government and civil society organizations participated. They gathered to level off understanding of nutrition-sensitive programming in the Philippines and discuss challenges that hinder multi-sectoral actions on nutrition. Key actions to address these challenges were identified and integrated into the Sun Pooled Funds project. These include strengthening nutrition advocacy through information dissemination and media

partnerships, orienting local key stakeholders on nutrition and nutrition-sensitive strategies, and providing local government and civil society partners with technical assistance on multi-sectoral planning, budgeting and implementation of nutrition interventions. Parallel sessions that promote women empowerment for better nutrition have also been conducted in the convention. Activities of the Pooled Fund project are also centered towards empowerment and engagement of women in nutrition interventions. The photo is taken at one of the trainings by the project where pregnant and lactating women, women of reproductive age, and



parents of children under 2 years old learned about indigenous vegetables and home gardening. They flocked the vegetable exhibit area to ask more about how to plant and take care of the vegetables because they want to immediately start growing them. At the end of the training, their knowledge improved by 59.3%. To date, 52 individuals have been trained on community food production and home gardening.

4. Achievement, Highlights, and Results

Pooled Fund grantees contributed to key stages of the SUN theory of change. There was significant contribution to supporting the Multi Stakeholder Platform (MSP) to come together and strengthen governance with greater focus at the sub-national level. By the end of 2019, in-country MSPs organized 48 new meetings at the national, sub-national and international level. Of those meetings, 50% were conducted at the international platform. Shared planning contributed to actors working together towards aligned implementation and achieving common nutrition results. The CSAs also supported in analysis of funding gaps to help in resource management through a shared process that brought different stakeholders together. There has been a significant increase in aligned implementation particularly at the sub-national level with a 93% increase in inclusiveness of CSA contribution and collaboration on addressing gender mainstreaming with national partners. CSA contributions are increasingly being taken up by governments, reflecting the value add of the CSAs in contributing to national policies and programmes.

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicators	Disaggregation	Achievements as of Dec 2019	Baseline 2018	Progress as of Dec 2018	
Outcome 1 (SMART planning): By the end of the grant period, the grantee SUN Countries have SMART, costed, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral Nutrition Plans in place.	National and sub national nutrition plans clearly show inclusiveness of CSAs inputs regarding gender inequality and women's empowerment		Total	70	3	20	
			<i>National</i>	16	3	7	
			<i>Sub-national</i>	44	0	3	
	Number of parliamentarian champions and key influencers that speak about nutrition in key decision-making processes related to legislation, policy making, planning and budgeting			Total	312	54	151
				<i>Men</i>	133	35	86
				<i>Women</i>	109	19	65
	Number of national and sub national nutrition plans/policies/laws (draft submitted to the government for approval) that clearly incorporate contributions provided by SUN CSAs			Total	60	3	32
				<i>National</i>	27	3	9
				<i>Sub-national</i>	33	0	23
Output 1.1: CSOs within the CSA network develop or contribute to participatory, SMART costed multi stakeholder nutrition plans aligned with national and sub-national priorities and opportunities with adequate participation by women, men, boys, girls and vulnerable	Number of roundtables and consultations organized with local, marginalized CSOs at national and subnational level		Total	191	11	61	
			<i>National</i>	12		-	
			<i>Sub-national</i>	179	11	61	
	Number of participants at roundtables and consultations organized with local CSOs at			Total	3096	212	1752
				<i>Men</i>	1711	143	990

	communities	national and subnational level (men, women)	<i>Women</i>	1350	69	762		
		Number of people reached through CSA organized events/actions to increase women and youth awareness of their rights, knowledge and best practice on food and nutrition (Men, Women, Boys, Girls)	Total	170912	3440	42469		
			<i>Men</i>	72878	1274	11257		
			<i>Women</i>	90345	1105	23924		
			<i>Girls</i>	4022	561	3752		
			<i>Boys</i>	3660	500	3536		
Outcome 2 (Financial resourcing): By the end of the grant period, international and domestic resources are better mobilized to finance national nutrition plans.		National costing nutrition plans address financing gaps highlighted through the work of CSAs and other stakeholders (Y/N)	Total	32	5	13		
			<i>National</i>	6	0	2		
			<i>Sub-national</i>	13	5	11		
		Amount of fund mobilized by the SUN CSAs through other sources (other than SUN Movement Pooled Fund) in US Dollars			Total	\$238,765		\$238,765
					Total	9	5	9
					Total	9	0	1
		SUN CSAs that have developed a sustainability strategy along with a clear resource mobilisation component (Y/N)			Total	9	5	9
<i>National</i>	7					1		
<i>Sub-national</i>	2							
Number of national or sub-national policy or plan formulation processes that used the budget analysis conducted or contributed to by CSAs either as supplements or as contribution			Total	9	0	1		
			<i>National</i>	7		1		
			<i>Sub-national</i>	2				
Output 2.1: Civil society contribution to and analysis of nutrition specific and sensitive allocations and expenditures made available at national and subnational levels either supplementing or collaborating with any existing budget analysis and review.		Number of national and/or sub-national financial reports or budget processes undertaken with participation by the CSO in CSA networks	Total	14	0	10		
			<i>National</i>	13		10		
			<i>Sub-national</i>	1				
Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation and accountability): By the end of the grant period, the SUN Country CSA is on track in implementing their nutrition		Number of Multi-sectoral Platform (MSP) meetings coordinated by SUN government focal point where the SUN CSA participate with quality inputs	Total	121	26	73		
			<i>International</i>	24				
			<i>National</i>	80	26	73		

	commitments and are making a demonstrable contribution to reducing malnutrition at national and sub-national levels.		<i>Sub-national</i>	17		
Output 3.1: Civil Society Alliances prioritize CSO membership, enabling them to actively contribute to multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder decision-making and coordination platforms at the national and subnational levels.	Number of CSO that have identified and reported on commitments aligned to national or sub-national government commitments	Total		135		
		<i>National</i>		5		
		<i>Sub-national</i>		130		
	Number of national and sub-national behaviour change campaigns organized in marginalized communities undertaken with support/participation of local CSOs.	Total	42	0	36	
		<i>National</i>	2	N/A	N/A	
		<i>Sub-national</i>	40	0	36	
	Number of people reached through the Behavior Change campaigns organized by CSOs within the CSA network (men, women, boys, girls)	Total	30,578	3,062	18,970	
		<i>Female</i>	11,256	1,017	5,218	
		<i>Male</i>	10,080	1,045	7,260	
		<i>Boys</i>	4,033	500	2,972	
		<i>Girls</i>	5,085	500	3,520	
Number of partnerships established by SUN CSAs to promote nutrition issues (excluding CSOs within the CSA networks)	Total	59	6	51		
Output 3.2: Civil Society Alliances contribute to and report on national progress in the SUN annual Progress Report as well as other national reporting mechanisms including Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable reporting mechanisms including Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals	Number of case studies collected from CSOs to inform national reporting mechanisms	Total	28			
	Number of national review mechanisms (eg: SDG national review process) in which SUN CSAs participated and provided quality inputs	Total	76	2	17	
Output 3.3: With the support of the CSA, sub-national CSOs encourage local authorities to share/report on their nutrition commitments.	Number of CSOs provided inputs about accountability and progress on existing NPAN commitments	Total	11			

5. Sharing Knowledge in Nepal

The Pooled Fund at the SUN Movement Global Gathering
November 4th - 7th 2019 in
Kathmandu, Nepal

The biennial pinnacle event of the SUN Movement, the [SUN Movement Global Gathering](#), served as an important juncture for all members of the SUN Movement to reflect upon challenges, opportunities, innovative solutions, and inspiration in the fight against malnutrition.

On the sidelines of the larger event, the Pooled Fund grant recipients from Window 1 - Cycles 1 & 2, attending as important representatives within their respective national delegations, sat together with donors and stakeholders to share achievements, concerns, solutions, and words of encouragement.

Several core lessons arose on success:

1. Government support is key to sustainability. The Pooled Fund project, as with many ambitious projects with a political advocacy component, can only be realized with government endorsements and working through existing government structures.



“You cannot introduce a new project without involving the government...so that interventions can have long term impact and sustainability.”

Delegate from Malawi

The experience of Papua New Guinea, setting up its Civil Society Alliance with Pooled Fund support and the government’s facilitating efforts, illustrates a win-win relationship with the government resulting in the inclusion of civil society partners when drafting the national nutrition policy and action plans.

2. Elections are both a great risk and a great opportunity, as has been highlighted in many project reports. The project team in Ethiopia used elections as an opportunity to sensitize and engage political leaders around nutrition, working carefully to develop and package relevant messaging. El Salvador echoed the opportunity presented by the popular momentum created in the pre-election period, and stressed that follow-through in the post-election period is vital to ensure their campaign commitments are maintained. Challenges were raised around the risk of being associated with a specific political party, in particularly volatile contexts. Overall, experiences demonstrated that, with

sufficient socio-political stability, a careful and localized strategy before and after the campaign can yield positive results.

3. Real change takes time. As delegates in the Philippines pointed out, truly scaling up nutrition requires long-term, adaptive mechanisms. Audience members agreed that decentralizing alliances, involving an active and supportive government focal point, and working with patience are best practices in project durability. While the Pooled Fund grants are conceived as short-term, catalytic funds, members of the Civil Society Alliances stated that achieving more systemic, impactful and sustainable objectives, rather than immediate short-term results, requires more time and predictable longer-term funding. These points were particularly salient for fragile states receiving Pooled Funds in 2019: Somalia, South Sudan, Chad, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Zimbabwe. In these states, the needs for reliable partnerships are greatest. Participants stated that, in order to create CSAs in countries where they did not exist, in fragile states, or in the context of chaotic elections, it can take the entire project implementation period “just to set up the system” or to develop the necessary communication channels and institutional capacity to make lasting change.





The SUN Movement Coordinator, Gerda Verburg, with the delegation from Sri Lanka.



The Pooled Fund Coordinator, Ophélie Hemonin, with the delegation from the Republic of Benin.

6. Sustainability

“We must preserve the gains made in ending hunger and malnutrition. This requires systemic transformation, with governments in the driving seat. It will take continued commitment and even greater action by governments for progress to continue to ensure structural change and sustainability of the nutrition agenda.”

Gerda Verburg, SUN Movement Coordinator

The SUN Movement Pooled Fund provides support to activities that are catalytic: those which spur other interested parties to take actions or contribute to the continuation of the project after Pooled Fund resources expire. These activities should be innovative and spark an organisation’s interest in working together on nutrition interventions that previously did not exist, or are new to a particular geographic area or group.

For the SUN Movement, sustainability is defined in two different but interrelated ways:

1. Sustainability is defined as the durability of project activities, such as nutrition-budget tracking, advocacy for nutrition-related issues during election cycles, public awareness campaigns, and various activities that deliver on goals outlined in national nutrition plans.
2. Sustainability in the Pooled Fund grants project is also defined as the durability of SUN Civil Society Alliances (and now Multi-Stakeholder Platforms and SUN Business Networks) exemplified by their continued financial capacity, stable membership, regular meetings with partners and their own staff, and expansion of grassroots networks.

“Thanks to Pooled Fund support 9 SUN Civil Society Alliances have developed sustainability strategies.”

“At the end of 2019, the SUN CSAs mobilized USD 238,765 to finance national nutrition plans.”

Cohesiveness and collaboration between civil society organisations means more successful advocacy, reduces the duplication of efforts, and supports inclusive solutions to local challenges.

The sustainability of a SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) will depend significantly upon the specific context in which the CSA sits, whilst also varying with their length of establishment. However, there are 3 key dimensions that can contribute to a SUN CSA becoming sustainable as a more viable, independent, and over time a self-financing entity. These will contribute to driving lasting progress.

The 3 dimensions are:

1. Financial Viability: The objective is for all CSAs to reach a level of financial stability, to minimize financial vulnerability and promote continuity in their activities.
2. Organisational & Governance Capacity: The objective is to ensure all CSAs are able to secure adequate human resource capacity, technical capacity and resources, institutional capacity, and administrative and governance structures to implement their strategies, address challenges, and be more accountable towards their efforts.

3. Operational and Advocacy Capacity: To maximize impact on malnutrition reduction through more efficient and effective efforts, accountability and learning through a robust MEAL system, and active contribution to national and sub-national Multi-stakeholder platforms.

By their very nature, sustainability criteria can only be confirmed years after the project ends. There are however, indicators of progress that can be used to determine the extent to which a project is likely to be sustainable beyond the direct funding window. The Pooled Fund was designed to develop and sustain a network of multi-stakeholder partners from different sectors working collaboratively to address malnutrition in different forms and levels. Achieving sustainability takes time and is dependent on several factors external to the project such as ensuring that the nutrition agenda remains high amongst national priorities and this is matched by adequate planning, resource allocation and implementation. The assessment of sustainability is therefore linked to the extent to which the pooled fund has played its catalytic role in establishing a multi stakeholder network, the ability of such a network to mobilize for productive engagement by key diverse stakeholders, the ability to get buy in from the community and to be considered as a relevant partner in national and sub-national planning and implementation processes as well as in resource mobilization. The extent to which the above factors are achieved will provide a strong indication that the role of the MSP would continue to be relevant and useful in addressing malnutrition beyond the current funding phase.

Those Window 1 - Cycle 1 grant recipients received top-ups conditioned on their performance and inclusion of sustainability activities in their revised plans. The Window 1 - Cycle 2 grant recipients were urged to develop fundraising strategies and plans, if they did not have these tools already in place. In the new Window 2 - Cycle 1 cohort of projects, grant recipients were provided the opportunity to include sustainability activities. Since June 2019, the Civil Society Network has been working closely with Alliances to maintain the momentum from the Pooled Fund for when the grant expires. The first sets of grant recipients closed their projects in early 2020. Based on the progress reports, there are clear indications that the Pooled Fund grantees are moving towards institutional sustainability by ensuring that the MSPs are institutionalized within a broader nutrition agenda at national and sub-national levels. The focus at the sub-national level is particularly important in providing a link between the needs of the community and government policies and plans. This ability to have Alliances operational at national and sub-national levels offers a distinct value added. As such, the sustainability of the Pooled Fund project is considered to be on track.

Finally, the Pooled Fund is also strengthening collaboration within the SUN movement by making use of existing tools such as the Joint Annual Assessment, strategic review and the functionality index to get evidence on key issues including sustainability. This approach will ensure that the Pooled Fund remains integrated within the SUN Movement's institutional knowledge and can ensure that there is clarity on how project results contribute directly to the overall SUN Movement Strategy.

7. Scaling Up Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls

Key messages:

- Healthy women and girls are the cornerstone of healthy societies. Ensuring they have access to good nutrition throughout their lives is in the DNA of the SUN Movement, and as such, a core part of the Pooled Fund's mission. Men and boys also have a role to play in supporting empowerment of girls and women. The Pooled Fund grant recipients used a wide approach to gender equality and empowerment of girls and women that has yielded positive results and lessons.
- Promoting diversity inclusion, gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment in the context of country-driven efforts is at the centre of the SUN Movement's efforts to leave no-one behind. The Pooled Fund grants address this as a priority by dedicating one section on gender in the CfP. The applicants are asked to provide how their projects/activities are designed to contribute to gender equality and/or the empowerment of women, adolescent girls, youth, indigenous people, grassroots groups and/or vulnerable communities. This is considered as one of the major evaluation criteria for the selection of grant recipients.
- The Pooled Fund management team also walks its talk in the way it operates, as its team is predominantly composed of female personnel, from 5 different geographic areas

As an important component of the SUN Movement's Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020, the Pooled Fund grants champion the Movement's vision, and, in particular, gender equality and diversity inclusion values which are an explicit part of each individual grant project. Gender equality and diversity inclusion factor into the both the Pooled Fund program management and in the individual grant project's activities.

Gender mainstreaming is an important dimension of UNOPS' approach to recruiting project personnel. UNOPS works to improve the gender balance of its workforce by fostering an inclusive organizational culture, recognizing that the diversity of teams is an asset to better address partners' needs and challenges. The majority of the Pooled Fund management team personnel are female. For more information on program personnel, see [Section: Pooled Fund Organigram](#)

In collaboration with grantees, the Pooled Fund Team continued its efforts in 2019 to mainstream gender and inclusion issues into design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of its calls for proposals and selected projects. During the design of the project, the applicants were asked to prioritize the project activities to benefit the women, children and vulnerable groups. During the Call for Proposals evaluations applicants were graded more favourably if they included a strategy to mainstream gender in their project. The Grant Evaluation Committees for Window 1 - Cycle 2 and Window 2 - Cycle 1, assigned 7% to 8% of the total evaluation points to gender. Grant recipients were also required to disaggregate the key performance indicators by men, women, girls and boys where possible.

The Pooled Fund program is at the middle stages of its implementation. Here are the intermediary results from projects in 2019:

7.1 Planning for Equality & Empowerment

Civil society's role in elevating the voices of women in national plans cannot be understated. Gender sensitive planning combats social inequities that contribute to malnutrition from a legal and structural perspective. This is why incorporating gender-sensitive inputs in national and subnational plans is a core activity of Window 1 projects. During the project implementation period for Window 1 -Cycle 1, four countries (Myanmar, Mali, Papua New Guinea and Somalia) have developed new national nutrition plans. These 4 national nutrition plans have included the SUN CSAs' inputs regarding gender equality and women's empowerment. The cohort of grant recipients from Window 1 - Cycle 2 have added another 3 national nutrition plans to the total that reflect gender inclusiveness. With increased advocacy by the CSAs on enhancing gender equality and women empowerment, there has been development of 44 new nutrition plans at the sub-national level which is 62% of the total nutrition plans developed in the grantee countries.

“Empowerment in Practice: *The CSA in Cambodia has been working with stakeholders to ensure that all priority actions of the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (NSFSN) 2019-2023 reflect explicit objectives for gender responsiveness, gender equality and gender equity. These efforts will ensure that data on gender mainstreaming is quantifiable, transparent, and nationally recognized. The Pooled Fund project in Cambodia continues to have strong representation of women in all its major events, including World Breastfeeding Week, University Forum, and National Nutrition Day.”*

7.2 Raising Women's Voices

Women play a critical role in every step of food processing, from production to food preparation. While empowering women with necessary nutritional knowledge and skill sets is important, it is also essential to receive feedback from them and identify solutions and better approaches to resolve the issues. Roundtable discussions that include key stakeholders and media serve as a platform for women, marginalized communities and CSOs at sub-national levels to share their challenges to ensure that their voices are heard and are factored-in to the national planning processes. With the Pooled Fund support, SUN CSAs organized a total 191 roundtable meetings at national and sub-national levels by December 2019. These roundtables helped CSA's reach a total of 3,096 stakeholders, 44% of which were women.

“Empowerment in Practice: *Gender diversity in roundtable discussions multiplies the coverage of nutrition topics elsewhere. For example, in Nigeria, around 57% of participants who engaged in roundtable discussions are women. The women who participate in these discussions then integrate nutrition in other groups in which they participate. The project team reports that nutrition topics were mimicked in church groups and non-related community support groups.”*

7.3 Outreach & Engagement

Gender inequality can be both a cause and an effect of malnutrition. The empowerment of women and youth is the key to improved nutrition and is also linked to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. Despite ongoing global efforts, gender discrimination still limits women's access to nutrition. The project implemented a specific component in many of the supported countries to engage women and youth to increase their awareness on the right to food and nutrition. Certain grant recipients have used Pooled Fund support in direct outreach and education efforts. In Sri Lanka, for example, the project implemented a school level nutrition program with boys and girls to make them nutrition-aware and to promote a mutual understanding of their equal rights to nutrition. At the end of 2019, the Pooled Funds supported CSA outreach activities to over 170,912 people, 57% of whom were women and children. In addition, the Pooled Funds supported 42 behavioural change campaigns, predominantly at the sub-national level. Alliances were able to reach 30,578 people (men: 10,080, women: 11,256, girls: 5,085 and boys: 4,033), with the objective of educating both men and women in communities on gender equality, nutrition, and healthy feeding practices. The effects of these mass mobilization activities will be measured in the later phase of the project using appropriate tools.

“Empowerment in Practice: *In Bangladesh, the project team actively prioritized and recruited women-run CSOs as alliance members. They succeeded to bring 5 CSOs on-board as members in Chattogram and Sylhet divisions. With the help of the Pooled Fund, Bangladesh is lifting up the voices of women to combat malnutrition.*

7.4 Gender-Sensitive Champions & Influencers

In its efforts to engage champions and key influencers that speak about nutrition in key decision-making processes related to legislation, policymaking, planning and budgeting, Pooled Fund projects have systematically prioritized working with more women. By the end of 2019, 109 (35%) of the 312 champions and key influencers were women. This demonstrates a significant acceleration from 2018, where only 19 champions and key influencers had been mobilized.

“Empowerment in Practice: *In Ghana, the project team has made a conscious effort to ensure equity and non-discrimination for women and girls. Out of the 40 nutrition champions they trained, 25 of them are women. The 15 men who became nutrition champions are also key to elevating the importance of nutrition to key decision-makers in traditionally male-dominated roles. These are deliberate efforts by the project implementing team in Ghana to raise the topic of malnutrition and to insert the voices of women in a strategic manner.”*

8. Look Back & Looking Ahead: Lessons Learned in 2019

The Pooled Fund grants support country-driven and country-led political strategies to scale up nutrition. Direct grant support is one of many activities within the SUN Movement, but it will take continued commitment, strategy, and action by grant recipients and their partners to ensure results. This chapter explores the programmatic and implementation challenges, lessons, and responses in 2019.

8.1 Overall Design & Administration

8.1.1 Monitoring & Evaluation: the need for a tailored approach

Combating malnutrition in all its forms requires a multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach with numerous and loosely-defined goals (Strategic Review, 16-7). The Pooled Fund Grant program faces similar strategic difficulties as much larger programs in the nutrition field. For example, the Pooled Fund Results Framework under Window one has broadly defined outcomes that focus on politically-endorsed nutrition plans, multilateral investment in national or subnational nutrition plans or nutrition activities, or progress towards nutrition targets. The outcomes are important but are not easy to measure directly and are also heavily dependent on external stakeholders. This poses a risk in the event of issues such as shifting government priorities, elections, disasters/emergencies, delays in facilitative factors such as government policies etc. The Window 1 Pooled Fund Results Framework outcomes are a mixture of process, qualitative and quantitative indicators which need to be monitored continuously to determine the quality of the processes, the diversity of the outreach, the relevance of the contributions, the effectiveness, the impact, and the sustainability of programmes overall. For the M&E function to provide useful information for decision-making, there is a need for a robust M&E system with strong monitoring and lesson-learned processes with engagement from diverse stakeholders. The Pooled Fund has prioritized this and has been providing detailed capacity building, networking, monitoring support and quality assurance of deliverables. This has helped to improve the quality of outputs. However, the Pooled Fund beneficiaries are becoming increasingly diverse. The Pooled Fund Team recognizes the need to ensure that the lessons-learned to date are implemented and findings are used for informed decision-making.

There were varying capacities by grant recipients on basic Monitoring & Evaluation practices.³ This is evident by some key challenges for example grant recipients mixing up the various levels (activities, outputs and outcomes). This further limited the ability to effectively monitor progress. The Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist provided customized M&E capacity-building sessions for those recipients through a series of webinars, one-on-one calls, and exchanges on draft logframes. This was supported through direct support

³ This was more pronounced in Window 1 - Cycle 1, where the Pooled Fund attracted grant recipients that were not selected for Nutrition Advocacy Funds. The Nutrition Advocacy Fund (NAF) was a small-grants program funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation under the New Venture Fund initiative. It targeted many of the same activities as those under Outcome 1 of the Pooled Fund Results Framework. Therefore, recipients of this funding were prohibited from applying to the Pooled Fund grants as a measure to avoid double funding that year. Some of the most active Civil Society Alliances were benefitting from the funding at this time.

field missions and tools to help the grantees undertake M&E activities.⁴ The Pooled Fund Team has strengthened its own M&E team based on the gaps identified in 2019 with regional M&E and Quality Assurance Specialists.

The Pooled Fund Team sought approval from the Consultative Group in June 2019 to add three regional Monitoring & Quality Assurance Specialists (More information on the team make-up can be found in the [Pooled Fund Organigram](#)). This new structure will ensure more regular and timely engagement with stakeholders for more sustainable and institutionalized M&E capacity within organizations. This is expected to contribute to an Alliance that is able to effectively record its impact in an empirical manner and will attract additional funding and partnership opportunities.

The Pooled Fund team also modified the M&E format for Window 2 grant recipients and provided more support to grant recipients during the planning stage in shaping their project logframes into actionable outputs and SMART indicators for each grant award.

Finally, the Pooled Fund Team responded to the M&E challenge by modifying the M&E approach in Window 2 - Cycle 1 for Multi Stakeholder platforms. In June 2019, the [Consultative Group](#) approved a more flexible overall framework for Window 2 - Cycle 1 that would allow the grant recipients to design innovative, catalytic and scalable projects suitable to their country context. Each grant recipient selected 2-3 thematic areas, with clear and actionable outputs. The grant recipients developed their own project proposals and indicators suitable to their country context. The Pooled Fund team noted that the logframes for Window 2 - Cycle 1 were limited and actionable, and have formed the bottom-up approach to the Window 2 Results Framework.

8.1.2 Technical Assistance

The SUN Movement Civil Society Network (CSN) is a major partner of the SUN Movement and of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund project in particular. The CSN provides country networking strategies, resource mobilization, and other forms of assistance to its members. According to the Pooled Fund Project Agreement, the Civil Society Network would “provide technical assistance and training to CSAs.” However, with over 50 Civil Society Alliances in its network, the CSN Secretariat’s capacity was stretched to the limit. Unfortunately, they were unable to address all requests in 2019.

The SUN Movement Secretariat and the SUN Civil Society Network are addressing this issue for Window 1 - Cycles 1 & 2 grant recipients by using more potential from all SUN Networks. These SUN Networks include the Civil Society Network, but also the United Nations Network, and the SUN Business Network, where appropriate.

This issue requires further consideration from the SUN Movement Secretariat and the Global Support System in Phase 3.0 of the SUN Movement. It would require forming clear connections between existing technical assistance models such as Technical Assistance for Nutrition Project (TAN), joint-investment from UN agencies in national-level partnerships, and regional training opportunities to the line staff of key national actors (NGOs, government officials, etc).

⁴ M&E Tools include the *Project Monitoring & Reporting (PMR) Guidance* and the *M&E Toolkit*, which includes logframe, activity, and risk-tracking templates.

8.1.3 Team Resources

In the early stages of the project, the Pooled Fund Team consisted of the Pooled Fund Coordinator, one Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, and one Grants Analyst. In 2019, the number of beneficiaries increased from 21 to 48. The tendering processes, contract management, report reviews, and site visits more than doubled.

In June 2019, the Consultative Group approved a budget revision to allocate the savings from partial or delayed recruitment in order to hire a Grants Officer and 3 Monitoring & Quality Assurance Specialists in 3 different geographic regions. With the addition of the Grants Officer, the Pooled Fund Team was able to process the increased reports, payments, and revisions with a greater degree of responsiveness to all 48 recipients in 2019.

The sudden increase in the number of grant recipients also created a challenge for project Monitoring & Evaluation. There were simply too many beneficiaries to assess in the remaining time allotted for each project. In order to have the most impact, it is important for the Pooled Fund M&E Specialist to time the visits while the project is well underway. Correct timing allows the Pooled Fund Team to have a variety of financial documents and internal controls from which it may sample. It also allows the M&E Specialist to clearly see the in-country partnerships and results firsthand. Since there were 3 different cohorts of grants issued in a 24-month timeframe, the number of site visits must increase significantly in 2020. The Pooled Fund Team anticipated this challenge by starting the recruitment for the 3 regional Monitoring & Quality Assurance Specialists in late 2019.

8.1.4 Call for Proposals

Designing and developing a Call for Proposals takes time and resources. The Pooled Fund program seeks to identify and cultivate innovative activities at the national and subnational levels. In order to do so, it can take up to six months to design, edit, seek internal approvals, publish the opportunity, and select grant recipients.

The Pooled Fund Call-for-Proposals emphasize project support or endorsement by the SUN Government Focal Point. Specifically, applications that include a written letter of support are assigned a higher point value. In theory, the chairing organization of a CSA is in regular contact with the Government Focal Point and the Government Focal Point is aware of the proposal's content and/or applying organization.. However, early site visits revealed that some Focal Points have pulled away from their duties, are functioning in an interim capacity, or not present at all. Their connection with the Pooled Fund program, and with the CSAs more generally, requires a larger intervention for certain countries. This is actually a common problem in grant-making, where letters of support are given freely. For applicants who did not have an official Government Focal Point, the Pooled Fund Team relaxed the criteria on who qualifies as a Government Focal Point in order to allow interim or acting-officials or officials from the Office of the Government Focal Point to sign and issue letters. To ensure that Government Focal Points took the letter-writing process seriously, the SUN Movement Secretariat issued communication directly to its Government Focal Points with details on the funding opportunity and its requirements.

8.1.5 Conflict of Interest

The Pooled Fund Team ensures that fund management is conducted in a competitive and transparent manner. In particular, this is assured by a clear separation of roles and responsibilities in the various stages of the grant design and evaluation process amongst the SUN Movement Secretariat, the Civil Society

Network Secretariat, UNOPS, and potential beneficiaries. The aim of these efforts is to avoid any potential conflicts of interest. During the design stage, the SUN Movement Secretariat saves the Pooled Fund topics for the end of the agenda and asks members of the Executive Committee to recuse themselves from the discussions. During the selection phase, each Grant Evaluation Committee member provides written certification that they have no conflicts-of-interest prior to starting the evaluation. UNOPS has also exercised the ability to disqualify applications based on conflicts of interest, which it identifies in its Evaluation Reports before making any financial obligations. As an additional measure to increase transparency, the Pooled Fund Team will launch a website in 2020 to clearly re-publish all Call-for-Proposals, project descriptions, and lists of awarded recipients. In conclusion, selecting and issuing a limited amount of funds will always generate a degree of conflict, but the Pooled Fund Team mitigates actual conflicts of interest to the best of its abilities.

8.1.6 Funds Transfer

The process of finalization of grant agreements with grant recipients awarded in Call for Proposals were very lengthy due to difficulties related to bank accounts funds transfer in certain countries. This was particularly evident in Sudan, Somalia, and countries whose currency was the West African Franc. The Pooled Fund Team experienced delays running remittances in local currency or through local banks, which were largely outside of the project's control. These difficulties delayed the start of implementation of several projects. These issues occurred in both Window 1 - Cycle 1 and Cycle 2.

As a mitigation measure, the Pooled Fund Team factored additional time to onboard new grant recipients. The Team sought and was granted authorization by UNOPS to increase the initial payout upon the grant recipient's request for Window 1 - Cycle 1 and Window 2 - Cycle 1. The grant recipients who took advantage of a modified payment schedule benefited from more cash-on-hand to initiate their projects.

8.2 Factors Determining Performance

"The Pooled Fund] has improved multisectoral coordination and the mobilization of other funds, particularly for the creation of a business network. Also in Senegal, civil society has mobilized and pooled resources with Canada, UNICEF and the government to strengthen the local authority mobilization and engagement process and improve regional governance for nutrition, incorporating gender."

Perspective from Senegal, Eau Vive Environnement and the Senegalese Civil Society Alliance

8.2.1 Organizational Capacity

Grant-making programs, especially in the context in which the SUN Movement operates and with the mission to "leave no one behind", must often strike a balance between capacity-building and organizational risks. The international nongovernmental civil society partners in the SUN Movement, such as Action Against Hunger, Helen Keller International, Concern International, and Nutrition International are vital partners in this endeavour. Their in-country offices and organizational expertise have empowered them to lead as chairing organizations for Civil Society Alliances in many SUN countries. This is why many INGOs serve as the prime recipient of Pooled Fund grants on behalf of their national nonprofit partners. Nevertheless, the aim of the SUN Movement is to create an enabling environment for a country-led, locally-sustained nutrition leadership. As such, the Pooled Fund has granted to NGOs that chair the National Civil

Society Alliance that may have weaker institutional capacity than their INGO counterparts. The Pooled Fund program made a deliberate decision to reach out to more NGOs when advertising the funding opportunity. For example, the Grant Evaluation Team received an increased proportion of NGOs to INGOs (42% NGOs) in the Window 1 - Cycle 2 Call for Proposals. Nevertheless, the Call for Proposals was a competitive process, where applications were scored against strict eligibility and evaluation criteria. In Window 1 - Cycle 2, the chairing organization of the Civil Society Alliance was the only eligible entity to apply. Therefore, the type of recipient was beyond the control of the Grants Evaluation Team. As a result, the Grant Evaluation Committee selected 19 projects, 11 of which were INGOs, in Window 1 - Cycle 2. In Window 2 - Cycle 1, the Grant Evaluation Committee selected 12 projects for funding, 3 of which were INGOs.

A challenge for the Pooled Fund Team was that the NGO grant recipients tended to face both low-absorption rates, poor documentation, and/or errors in financial reporting. These often resulted in delays in payment approval. The delays in payment approval further delayed activity implementation. UNOPS mitigated these risks by running webinars M&E and grant management webinars for all recipients at the start of their project, providing one-on-one monitoring support, adding optional reporting webinars, and notifying the Civil Society Network and SUN Movement Secretariat technical assistance requests from grant recipients.

8.2.2 Engagement by Government

Civil society organizations are key contributors to the SUN Movement. Non-governmental organizations, whether they are national or international, have a unique ability to represent underserved communities, support national efforts in the far corners of the state, and bring together various health and sanitation sectors that collectively scale-up nutrition. The health and sustainability of the non-profit sector in any country directly correlates to the government's willingness to work together and provide space for different stakeholders to participate in and influence key national or sub-national processes. The willingness and collaboration with the government varies as the government's priorities and composition change. At times, the changes become opportunities for stronger collaboration. However in certain cases, change in the political composition leads to slow down of activities or even nonprofit deregistration.

The Pooled Fund program encourages network linkages as early as the application stage, where applicants with a Letter of Commitment from their Government Focal Point are scored more favourably in the process. The effectiveness of the SUN Civil Society Alliances is thereby related to the government's sustained engagement and transparency with its partners. The collaborative multi stakeholder approach has been helpful in strengthening the collective voice of nutrition stakeholders and government. The collective voice has had a higher ability to influence policy and public opinion than individual organizations. Certain Pooled Fund grant recipients had challenges initiating or sustaining government engagement, particularly where their SUN Government Focal Point was absent or acting in an interim or provisional manner.

The Window 1 - Cycle 2 Call for Proposals emphasized the role of CSA leadership. The majority of civil society grant recipients in 2019 in Window 1 - Cycle 2 and Window 2 - Cycle 1 were chairing organizations of a Civil Society Alliance. In the case of Papua New Guinea and Namibia, the Civil Society Alliance was in its fledgling stages. In the case of Namibia, the political response was slow due to competing national priorities. For Papua New Guinea, the government was still in the process of developing its vision to scale up nutrition. Therefore, the position of the SUN Government Focal Point and the nutrition sector more broadly, were largely underfunded in 2019. At times, this slowed access and advocacy by civil society towards the government. In other countries, Civil Society Alliances reported feeling they were given unclear expectations by their government or feeling that their government had stalled in taking draft plans forward

to the appropriate legislative body for final approval. Collaboration across sectors is not always easy, but the Pooled Fund supports a catalytic role in ensuring that collaboration remains a high priority in all the grant cycles - collaboration is precisely what is needed for lasting change. No matter the conditions at present, the SUN Movement is consistent in prioritizing engagement with Government Focal Points and nutrition champions from both the public, private, and non-profit sectors to transform evidence into policies. Looking ahead, the SUN Movement will also explore opportunities to increase the role that other networks, such as the UN Network or the SUN Business Network, could play in cross-network synergies of Pooled Fund projects.

8.2.3 Election-Related Restrictions and Political Instability

Political access to key stakeholders and physical access⁵ to gather and visit provincial sites, is vital for Pooled Fund grant recipients to carry out their projects. Restrictions of various types posed a challenge to certain projects in 2019. In some circumstances, a change in national focus from nutrition planning to election gains may have reduced the short-term impact of the grant recipient's advocacy efforts.

Elections periods in all Pooled Fund projects are both an opportunity and challenge for grant recipients. In the period leading up to elections, many grant recipients contributed to political platforms on nutrition and food security as was the case in Ethiopia. However, elections also generate a level of insecurity in certain country contexts. For example, elections in Bangladesh inhibited the grant recipient's opportunity for organizing public mobilization events to disseminate information on the national nutrition plan. Governments generally distrust public organizing during tense election periods. Nigeria's Civil Society Alliance, with all its experience and maturity within the SUN Movement, also had difficulty accessing government officials at the subnational and national level, partly due to elections and local insurgencies. When new waves government officials enter the ranks of the line ministries, it can take months for the Pooled Fund project teams to be re-introduced to the new faces in their government partners and to re-gain access to political appointees. In the case of Nepal, bureaucratic re-structuring between levels of government has severely inhibited planning efforts at the national and subnational level to the degree that the project team is focusing mainly on interventions at the subnational level. Generally speaking, it is most advantageous for Pooled Fund projects when the government or political party in power remains the same throughout the duration of their project.

Key to multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder strategy development is a relatively stable environment in which partners can collaborate. Certain Pooled Fund grant recipients faced a higher degree of instability than others which affected their ability to access terrain or to garner the attention of key partners.

Two clear examples of external instability were the cyclone that hit Mozambique and the attacks in Sri Lanka in March and April 2019, respectively. In Sri Lanka, a combination of political instability in late 2018 and violent extremism in April 2019, made it difficult for the project team to approach parliamentarians and provincial councilors as nutrition change agents. Cyclone Idai caused a major humanitarian crisis in Mozambique and in parts of Malawi and Zimbabwe. The project team has a mitigation strategy in place to reduce activities around the election period should violence erupt or if the currency fluctuates drastically. It is also addressing limited Civil Society participation for organizations involved in emergency response. No matter the adversary, nutrition actors adapt and persevere to maintain an enabling environment for good nutrition to grow.

⁵ Examples of physical access limitations: redeployment of focal points in the government after election that requires advocacy for re-engagement, limited accessibility to certain areas due to security reasons and/or during election period, limitation of activities that require public gathering during pre-election period, etc.,

“The project has enabled greater trust between the government and civil society (Mali). Civil society is now far more involved and invited to take part as a full player in both joint evaluations and other projects.”

Perspective from Mali, Centre Sahélien de Prestation, d’Etudes, d’Ecodéveloppement et de Démocratie Appliquée (CSPEEDA) and the Malian Civil Society Alliance

Despite the challenges posed by political instability, it is in times like these that families are most vulnerable to malnutrition and most in need of collective support. It is also expected that countries which have regular instabilities and insecurities are likely to have weak Civil Society Alliance, limited organizational capacity, or to have hampered field missions. The Pooled Fund however now has the experience to support these countries within their context to make progress towards reduced malnutrition for the most vulnerable and reach the furthest behind. The approach of working at national and sub-national level and with civil society and other community-based organizations provides a window that supports the country’s nutrition agenda, no matter the difficulties.

8.2.4 Reaching the Furthest Left Behind

The SUN Movement seeks to improve nutrition for all, particularly for the most vulnerable communities. In conflict-affected states, nutrition stakeholders face difficulties in gathering, collaborating effectively, securing funding, or garnering local trust with international organizations. This is further compounded by cultural factors which embed practices and behaviours that may undermine nutrition or reduce access to vulnerable populations. For such countries or regions, it is likely that results would be difficult to achieve, accountability may be fluid, capacities and participation may also be limited yet their needs and vulnerabilities may be greatest. The Pooled Fund Team is identifying lessons-learned and best practices on how to support fragile states, by observing the results of its current fragile state beneficiaries. The process of lesson learning has started and is expected to evolve as implementation and monitoring progresses.

The Pooled Fund program was initially designed to be a competitive process to support leading organizations in Civil Society Alliances in rolling out their countries national nutrition plans. The Grant Evaluation Committee identified high-risk recipients, however there were no scoring criteria to prioritize Fragile States or other high-risk countries in the grant selection process. It was particularly difficult for the Grant Evaluation Committee to turn away applications from countries in need, but there were simply not enough resources or risk mitigation resources to award every applicant. In particular, the Pooled Fund Team has concluded that country’s seeking to establish a new Civil Society Alliance require additional, hands-on support from the Civil Society Network, a Results Framework that sets functionality and sustainability in process indicators, and a clear transition and endorsement plan with that country’s Government Focal Point via the SUN Movement Secretariat’s Country Liaison Team. In addition, the Pooled Fund Team has noted that if the aim is to prioritize Fragile States and other high-risk SUN Member States, then a Call for Proposals and oversight guidelines should be developed specifically for their needs. High-risk grant applicants should be identified independently from other SUN Member states, while relaxing the criteria for the entity-type as an award recipient. For example, an INGO or UN agency may be more effective as an in-country prime recipient than an NGO in states such as the Democratic Republic of Congo or Yemen. UNOPS would also need to conduct a different level of due diligence and re-assess the level of financial oversight of the project. Finally the high-risk states would likely need additional implementation time and a Result Framework with indicators more closely aligned with the capabilities of Civil Society

Alliance in-country. In conclusion, the Pooled Fund cannot remain a one-size-fits-all design if the aim is to address the contextualized needs of grant recipients.

8.2.5 Achieving Lasting Impact Through Short-Term Catalytic Projects: A Paradox?

It is possible to achieve lasting impact through short-term catalytic projects but the realities on the ground with factors such as shifting political priorities, changes in capacities, disasters, conflict, inadequate funding, disease outbreaks, cultural and behavioural practices, it is likely that more time and support would be required to ensure that the changes achieved are sustained. The Pooled Fund addressed the realities of a short term process by limiting the activity scope and implementation timeline of Pooled Fund beneficiaries. This has been a value-added in ensuring a more collaborative approach to garnering high-level and broad engagement of nutrition stakeholders. During the short period, it has been possible to make significant progress based on the expectations during the design. The presence and functioning of newly-formed Civil Society Alliances is in itself a great achievement. However, further support may be required to ensure that all Alliances continue to be credible and essential in their governments' national or subnational agendas. Alliances will need capable staff who are able to contribute constructively and deliver tangible results. The Pooled Fund Team and the SUN Movement face the challenge of developing tested approaches on a short timeframe. It is essential that the vision of the Pooled Fund remain flexible, customizable, and action-oriented while negotiating exit strategies with global networks to sustain project activities.

9. Looking Ahead: Phase 3 of the SUN Movement and of its Pooled Fund

The second half of 2020 and to a large extent 2021 are anticipated to be transitional years with a strong focus on consolidation, reflection and re-orientation towards the outcomes of the Strategic Review process and transition to Phase 3 of the SUN Movement. The Pooled Fund Team together with the SUN Movement Secretariat will dedicate much of its energy, experience and expertise to organize and manage the process to ensure the Movement's pooled fund is used as effectively as possible to extract and disseminate learnings from its Phase 2 activities, support the reflection called for by the Strategic Review on country needs which would warrant some form of Pooled Fund mechanism (2020), and pilot activities to start steering the Movement towards the objectives set forth in the third phase strategy (2021). In particular, in 2020 and in 2021, it will be important to:

1. Determine the extent to which the Pooled Fund is proving catalytic for actions to scale up nutrition in-country, with specific attention on its contribution to the country multi-stakeholder platforms, and on its contribution to strengthening the sustainability of country governance processes and activities.
2. Assess the validity of the Pooled Fund's performance objectives.
3. Ascertain the opportunities and limitations that the Pooled Fund has in supporting the achievement of the objectives set forth in the third phase strategy.
4. If relevant and decided by the Pooled Fund governing bodies, propose with the carry-over funds 1-2 pilot activities for 2021 aligned to the Strategic Review deliberations, which will be used to explore the feasibility of actions contributing to implement the vision of SUN 3.0 (such as identify high-impact, high added value interventions in the National Nutrition Plans currently not funded; supporting the creation of a knowledge management system capturing the learnings and data from Window 1 and 2 projects; support to peer-learning activities based on Window 1 and 2 experiences; support TA provision to grantees in the context of ensuring the sustainability of projects, etc.).
5. Support the implementation of the decision that will be taken on the future of the Pooled Fund (either its closing down in 2021 or its evolution towards a phase 3.0).

10. Annexes

Annex I: Annual Financial Narrative Report

About this Report

This SUN Movement Pooled Fund Annual Financial Report presents expenditures for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Pooled Fund Grants Project during the period 1 January 2018 – 31 December 2019. It also includes a description of major variances with the revised multi-year budget until 2021 (Annex I) and an overview of all donor contributions to the Pooled Fund Project (Annex II). This report represents an update on the Pooled Fund Grants Project expenditures stemming from the enterprise resource planning (ERP) system, OneUNOPS, maintained by the Pooled Fund Grants hosting and fund management entity: the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

Summary

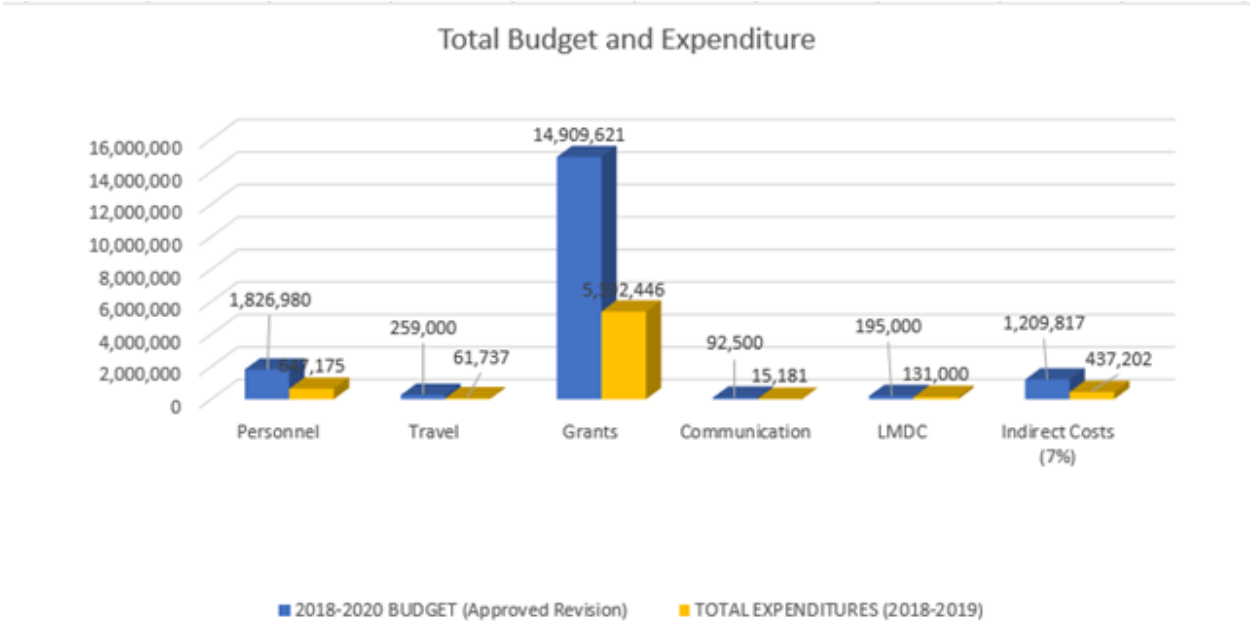
Key Financial Elements as of December 2019

In reporting period, the SUN Movement Pooled Fund Grants Project total expenditures amounted to **USD 6,684,741**: with **81.67%** spent for grants, **9.68%** spent on Personnel, **0.23%** for Communication, **0.92%** for Travel, and **1.96%** for locally managed direct costs (LMDC). These figures are based on a total revised budget (reflecting the project period 2018-2021) of **USD 18,492,918** as approved by the Consultative Group. The total expenditures disbursed in 2018 was **USD 1,470,547** and **USD 5,214,194** in 2019 and represents **36%** of the total budget. It is important to mention the percentages are based on the total budget and might change whenever a new or existing donor contributes more towards the Pooled Fund. Please see the table below for a summary breakdown of the total budget and respective year's expenditure. With the provisional budget for 2020 allocated for grants which is around USD 7 million, it is estimated to have a balance of approximately USD 1.2 million at the end of year 2020 that will be carried over to 2021.

DESCRIPTION	2018-2021 BUDGET in USD (Revision- March 2020)	% CONTRIBUTION UPON TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDITURES in USD 2018	TOTAL EXPENDITURES in USD 2019	TOTAL EXPENDITURES in USD (2018-2019)
Personnel	1,826,980	9.9%	233,919	413,256	647,175
Travel	259,000	1.4%	16,128	45,609	61,737
Grants	14,909,621	80.6%	1,053,954*	4,338,492	5,392,446
Communication	92,500	0.5%	5,419	9,762	15,181
Other Direct Costs	195,000	1.1%	65,000	66,000	131,000
Subtotal Direct Costs	17,283,101		1,374,420	4,873,119	6,247,539
Indirect Costs (7%)	1,209,817	7%	96,127	341,075	437,202
Grand Total	18,492,918		1,470,547	5,214,194	6,684,741

* Includes currency revaluation or exchange rate gain/loss.

Note: Please find the Certified Financial Statement in separate attachment



Grants Implementation

In the 1st Call for Proposal, UNOPS awarded in total 21 grants (including the top-up for Cycle 1 grant recipients) in the total amount of USD 3,383,751. Cumulative expenditure for 2018 and 2019 is USD 5,392,446 and this accounts for all advance payments and interim milestone payments to all Cycle 1 and 2 grant recipients under Window 1 and final payment to one Window 1 Cycle 1 grant recipient (Myanmar). In addition, the expenditure reflects advance payments to 8 grantees under Window 2.

Personnel

At the end of 2019, the Pooled Fund Grants Project spent **USD 647,175** in the Personnel category. In 2018, the Pooled Fund Grants Project was comprised of three core personnel: Grants Analyst, M&E Specialist, and the Pooled Fund Grants Coordinator. In 2019, with the approval of the Consultative Group the Pooled Fund team added four additional resources to meet operational demands due to the increase in number of grant recipients. The project added one Grants Management Officer and three Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Officers. During the reporting period, the Pooled Fund team liaised with the Executive Committee, the Consultative Group, SUN Networks and SUN Countries for the implementation of grant activities under Window 1. Activities under this Window mainly consisted of support to SUN Civil Society Alliances, as well as the preparation and launch of Call for Proposals under Window 2. The Pooled Fund team also worked on the business case related to the use of additional funding for support to national Business Networks under Window 1.

Travel

Expenditures on Travel amounted to **USD 61,737** in 2019. The cost of travels is related to the Monitoring & Evaluation visits of the projects funded under the 1st & 2nd Call for Proposals. By December 2019, sixteen

monitoring visits took place in sixteen countries. The M&E visits began only once projects were underway (approximately 4-5 months after the start of the projects). Preliminary results and subsequent visits are available in the corresponding narrative report.

The monitoring visits faced a number of challenges during the reporting period, this was mostly due to political instabilities and security restrictions in some of the countries. Additionally, the sudden increase in grant recipients increased from 21 to 40 which stretched the capacity and organization of monitoring and field visits in remote areas of some countries. However, with the increased number of Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists located in three regional hubs: Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Cote d’Ivoire, it’s expected the monitoring visits will increase in numbers.

2018-2019 Site Visits			
#	Month-Year	Country	Grant Recipient
1	September 2018	Ghana	Hunger Alliance
2	September 2018	Nigeria	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria
3	September - October 2018	Liberia	Action Against Hunger
4	November 2018	Bangladesh	Concern International
5	November 2018	Myanmar	Save the Children International
6	November - December 2018	Sri Lanka	World Vision Lanka
7	January 2019	Senegal	Eau Vie Environment
8	January - February 2019	Benin	Alliance de la Société Civile pour l’Intensification de la Nutrition au Bénin (ASCINB)
9	February 2019	Cameroon	Helen Keller International
10	March 2019	Kyrgyzstan	Alliance for Nutrition and Food Security
11	March 2019	Papua New Guinea	Save the Children International
12	March 2019	El Salvador	Centro de Apoyo de Lactancia Materna (CALMA)
13	July 2019	Namibia	Synergos Namibia Trust
14	July 2019	Chad	Alliance Sahélienne de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Durable (ASRADD)
15	October 2019	Somalia	African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect
16	November 2019	Nepal	South Asia Infant Feeding Network

Communications

The total cost for communications up to 2019 amounted to USD 15,181. This includes translation of the initial Call for Proposal, pre-solicitation webinars, M&E webinars, grant management webinars and reporting webinars, official letters and production of 2018 Annual Progress Report. The translations were in the three Pooled Fund Grant Project working languages: English, French and Spanish.

Due to the increased volume of the Pooled Fund and the number of Calls for Proposals, the Consultative group also increased the budget for communications by USD 49,000 over the 3-year project period. This support costs for additional translation, and communication costs as needed. These amounts are reflected in this document's approved budget.

Locally Managed Direct Costs (LMDC)

UNOPS charges Direct Costs for the management of the Pooled Fund Grants Project. Direct costs include various costs directly incurred by UNOPS to host the SUN Movement Pooled Fund Grants Project. Examples of these are operating costs of the portfolio management team and a ratio of costs of the corporate management team, office spaces, utilities and securities. The direct costs totaled USD **131,000** in 2019 and will continue to be charged annually and at the same rate for the remainder of the project until 2021.

Indirect Costs

The total indirect costs charged by UNOPS in 2019 across all contributions amounted to USD **437,202** i.e. 7% of the total expenditures until 2019.

SUN Movement Pooled Fund Grants – Revised Budget (2018-2021)

BUDGET ACCOUNTS	2018-2020 USD Provisional Budget - June 2019 version approved by CG	2018-2021 USD Provisional Budget - March 2020 version approved by CG and SUN ExCom
Grants Window 1 Cycle 1 (CSAs)	3,340,000	3,383,751
Grants Window 1 Cycle 2 (CSAs)	3,800,000	3,758,393
Grants Window 1 Cycle 3 (SBNs)	-	3,068,162
Grants Window 2 Cycle 1 (MSPs)	3,000,000	3,376,261
Available budget for grants	36,625	1,323,054
GRANTS	10,176,625	14,909,621
Pooled Fund Coordinator	468,504	468,504
Grants Analyst	414,972	414,972
Grants Management Officer	199,500	199,500
M&E Specialist	468,504	468,504
Monitoring & QA Specialist (Bangladesh)	95,000	95,000
Monitoring & QA Specialist (Côte d'Ivoire)	57,000	57,000
Monitoring & QA Specialist (Ethiopia)	123,500	123,500
Locally Managed Direct Costs	195,000	195,000
PERSONNEL	2,021,980	2,021,980
TRAVEL	259,000	259,000
COMMUNICATION & VISIBILITY	92,500	92,500
FEES (7%)	892,157	1,209,817
TOTAL (USD)	13,637,262	18,492,918

SUN Movement Pooled Fund Grants – Donors Contributions

Donors to the Pooled Fund	Contribution received - in USD	Contribution - as per Legal Agreement (Local Currency)	End Date Donor's agreement
Switzerland	3,999,900.00	USD 4,000,0000	31-Dec-20
Ireland	2,081,866.95	EUR 1,200,000	1-Dec-18
		EUR 600,000	19-Dec-20
Canada	794,913.00	CAD 1,000,000	31-Dec-19
Norway	2,634,351.95	NOK 22,500,000	31-Dec-20
United Kingdom	2,912,177.33	GBP 2,250,000	31-Dec-20
Germany	1,590,909.09	EUR 1,400,000	31-Dec-20
European Commission	4,478,800.00	EUR 4,000,000	31-Dec-20
TOTAL (USD)	18,492,918.32		

Annex II: Welcome to the SUN Movement Pooled Fund Grant COUNTRY PROFILES

SUN Pooled Fund Window 1 - Cycle 1

BANGLADESH

National flag

Awarded to: Concern Worldwide (CW)

Grant value: USD 114,000

Project duration: 01 August 2018 to 31 October 2019 (15 months)

Field visit: done in November 2018

Targeted outcomes: outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation &

About

Concern Worldwide Bangladesh is highly committed to addressing malnutrition. The Civil Society Alliance for SUN Bangladesh was launched in 2021. Concern Worldwide has been elected and started to host CSA secretariat in 2016. Concern's nutrition team has engaged in providing technical support to the development, revision and updates of national nutrition related strategies, policies, guidelines and training modules. The organization also has strong acceptance among civil society actors to lead advocacy efforts due to its longstanding presence in the country with demonstrated understanding of the operational environment and strong institutional relationships with local and national authorities. CSA for SUN plans to contribute to the effective implementation of the second National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN2) by advocating for context specific prioritised implementation plans and sufficient sub-national resource allocations. Civil Society Actors are planned to mobilize to demand improved government action on nutrition.

Results

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- Changes in the political environment due to national election has hindered the implementation and hence, budget review and mapping, and development of costed subnational nutrition plans did not happen.
- The grantee however trained nutrition champions to increase the profile of nutrition and influence planning and budgeting for nutrition.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Civil Society Alliances established/reinforced in two divisions and 30 CSOs were engaged as members and they were trained to adopt nutrition sensitive interventions and advocacy.
- Subnational level coordination efforts by government has been supported by CSA through establishment of District Multi-sectoral Nutrition Coordination Committees (DNCC). A total of 8 targeted districts have formed DNCC during the implementation period.
- The progress of the 2nd National Plan of Action on Nutrition (NPAN2) has been reviewed by CSA by engaging policy makers key experts from development partners at national level.
- NPAN2 has been disseminated to sub-national levels via 12 dissemination workshops organized at district level.
- Joint Annual Assessment (JAA) has been concluded.
- 34 public mobilization campaigns and 1 round table discussion have been conducted to increase

public demand for improved government nutrition action.

BENIN

National flag

Awarded to: Alliance de la Société Civile pour l'Intensification de la Nutrition au Bénin (ASCINB)

Grant value: USD 113,844

Project duration: 11 July 2018 – 31 May 2020

Field visit: 28 January 2019 – 01 February 2019

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

Alliance de la Société Civile pour l'Intensification de la Nutrition au Bénin (ASCINB) is now actively involved in the activities of the National Food Council (CAN) and all decision-making bodies on nutrition issues in Benin. In November 2018, several members of the Alliance participated in the national workshop to validate the diagnostic report and guidelines for the development of the national nutrition policy in Benin. At the conclusion of the work, the ASCINB Coordinator and another member were selected to be part of a small group whose mandate is to support the consultants in finalizing the documents. This will allow the latter to monitor relevant positions and conduct analysis.

In addition, a strategic partnership has been initiated with CARE International Benin - Togo for more synergy in projects and programs in the field of nutrition. At the sub-national level, the departmental relays and the municipal focal points have adopted the theory of change developed within the framework of the CSA (SEIN-BENIN) and must reinforce their actions in the field during the 1st quarter of 2019 since they will have been trained on budget advocacy and resource mobilization for nutrition at centralized and decentralized levels.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

The SEIN-BENIN project allowed:

- Private sector representatives to identify, in collaboration with mayors, prefects, public administration agents and local authorities, private investment opportunities for improving nutrition in project communes.
- To introduce members of the Civil Society Alliance for Scaling Up Nutrition in Benin (ASCINB) to budget analysis.
- The commitment of the Communal Elects to form strategic partners alongside the ASCINB for advocacy for the creation by the Government of Benin through the CONAFIL (National Commission of Local Finance) specific window entitled FADEC -Nutrition within the framework of the Common Development Support Fund (FADeC) to strengthen the existing FADeC-Agriculture.
- In April and May 2019, ASCINB continued implementing the budget analysis and collecting data.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

The SEIN-BENIN project allowed the mayors of the 6 project-focused communes (including 3 in the South and 3 in the North), to take part in writing the commitment to assign a specific line to nutrition in the budgets of 2019 and to allocate these resources effectively.

The Prefects (those with the authority of guardianship of the communes) provided written commitment to integrate the 2019 communal budgets with nutrition line items and to check on the efficient use of those budget resources in the fight against malnutrition.

Finally, in April and May 2019, ASCINB elaborated on their own capacity as the CSA Chair. They selected a consultant for the formalization and the elaboration of the organization's statutes and regulations and

selected two consultants that will develop the ASCINB Strategic Plan. The plan will help them communicate and mobilize resources.

SEIN-BENIN participated in the work led by the SP CAN (Permanent Secretary of the Food and Nutrition Council) on the development of the orientations and strategic axes of the national policy of food and nutrition. This work took place from 14 to 18 May 23 May and 27 May, 2019

BURUNDI

National flag

Awarded to: Concern International

Grant value: USD 161,853

Project duration: 26 July 2018 - 30 June 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

Concern Burundi, in support of the CSA of Burundi, attended a preparatory meeting for the elaboration of the multi-sectoral plan for nutrition and food security (PSMSAN II) and participated in a week long elaboration of PSMSAN II. The project officer then participated in week long workshop for the elaboration of the monitoring and evaluation plan for PSMSAN II (multi-sectoral plan for nutrition and food security) in April.

The project officer worked with the communication team to prepare an advocacy strategy for the project, components of which will be used to guide the Civil Society Network (CSN) to prepare their own strategy. The project team also met with the President of the CSN to prepare for the coordination meeting which will be held in June 2019.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

At the subnational level, the CSA held three meetings with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) (Gruppo di Volontariato Civile, International Medical Corps and Homestart) operating in the domain of health and nutrition to gain their inputs and recommendations.

In this reporting period, the project officer visited the governor of two provinces, Mwaro and Muramvya, to introduce the concept of the provincial level meetings and start the initial planning for these meetings. Evaluation of the completed provincial level meeting and preparation for the upcoming provincial level meetings continued. In April, Concern Burundi organized provincial level workshops in the provinces of Bururi, Rumonge and Rutana were organised; on average there were 35 participants at each meeting (104 participants in total).

In May 2019, the Grantee organised for nutrition champions to be elected in 6 provinces. To date, 12 nutrition champions have been elected.

CAMEROON

National flag

Awarded to: Helen Keller International

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 6 August 2018 - 30 April 2020

Field visit: 4 February 2019 - 8 February 2019

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

Helen Keller International and the CSA of Cameroon have conducted a mapping exercise of 47 local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) involved in the fight against malnutrition. Of these, 33 participated in capacity building workshops for CSOs. This was 18 more than the target set in the project. At the end of this capacity building workshops, there was an improvement in their understanding of the topics covered.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

As a result of the capacity building, 33 local CSOs committed to participate in the civil society platform movement and thereby share the progress of their field activities. This will increase their accountability and contribute to a better coordination of the activities of all the actors of the platform.

In May 2019, the project was marked by the validation workshop of the various tools (data collection, gap identification sheet, and advocacy for the strengthening of the data collection system, and the checklist for nutrition and gender). These different tools were disseminated to all members of the Cameroon civil society platform. Helen Keller International also discussed the partnership with FAO and MINADER to strengthen the capacity of primary and secondary school teachers on the involvement of local elected representatives and CSOs in the promotion of nutrition and nutrition-sensitive interventions.

At the grassroots level, the CSA realized the effective involvement of local elected representatives in the fight against malnutrition in the East Cameroon region. This is the result of the capacity building workshop and advocacy for nutrition among these local elected officials in January 2019, organized by the civil society platform. To this end, the local elected officials of Nguemendouka commune allocated a budget of just over 7 million for activities and interventions related to nutrition in their commune. The CSA platform members, attended a "training of trainers" for the monitoring and implementation of the pilot project "green classes" in some schools of the Eastern region. The "green classes" project aims to promote innovative and playful nutrition education and eventually to establish school gardens in collaborative promotion with local officials

CHAD

National flag

Awarded to: Alliance Sahelienne de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Durable (ASRADD)

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 10 July 2018 - 30 April 2020

Field visit: 16 July 2019 - 19 July 2019

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial resourcing), and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART planning and legislation

During this reporting period, the Alliance Sahelienne de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Durable (ASRADD) fully completed a multi-sectoral mapping exercise. Now, all the organizations involved in the field of nutritional security are identified and informed about the establishment of SUN Movement platforms in Chad.

Most recently, the parliamentary network made an awareness caravan in 3 provinces (Mayo-Kebbi, Lake Chad and Hadjer-Lamis). The provincial provinces of Batha and Salamat received hygiene and food poisoning training and will complement the work of the parliamentary awareness caravans.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

Advocacy tools have been created and disseminated. This result is 100% achieved. The Grantee is has also used its Nutrition Champion network to collect and develop a grievances book that could inform the advocacy training.

Outcome 3: Effective implementation and Accountability

Thanks to this fund that there was the creation of the Chadian CSA and extending actions into six new provinces with the involvement of all stakeholders in these provinces in multisectoral dialogue. It is doing so through the help of advocacy caravans in 6 regions. This project enabled the establishment of the SUN Chad Civil Society Alliance and to identify active CSOs capable of engaging in the fight against undernutrition in Chad in the six provinces. Thanks to this project, community radio journalists and community radio presenters from the six provinces received training on nutritional safety, something that has never been done in Chad. In addition to this, a large-scale debate conference was organized and moderated by two professors from the Faculty of Medicine of the University of N'Djamena. The networking of CSOs is a new initiative. Many CSOs did not know about the existence of the various networks in Chad and what they have to offer. The Grantee then installed 2 nutrition focal points in the province of Batha and the province of Moya-Kebbi-EST in conjunction with the platform CTPNA (Standing Technical Committee for Nutrition and Food), which will expand the network.

The Grantee was also able to host a scientific day in the form of conference debate with the network of scientists at the University of N'Djamena at the Faculty of Medicine. Additionally, the project has strengthened the knowledge and involvement of 35 journalists and community and central radio presenters in the 6 provinces of Chad.

EL SALVADOR

National flag

Awarded to: Centro de Apoyo de Lactancia Materna (CALMA)

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 9 July 2018 - 30 June 2020

Field visit: 25 March 2019 - 28 March 2019

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Centro de Apoyo de Lactancia Materna (CALMA) is one of the leading members of the NutrES Alliance, the CSA of El Salvador. Their project, "Advocacy for a SMART Nutrition Plan in El Salvador" has had important achievements.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART planning and legislation

They prepared a Country Proposal prepared in Sovereignty and Food Security called "The Food Security Needed El Salvador", through a technical analysis that aims to provide relevant and strategic inputs, as well as concrete proposals that are taken into account in the next government of El Salvador for the period 2019-2024 including the need to have SMART Planning in nutrition. There is also a technical document on the situation of nutritional food security in El Salvador, which served as input for the formulation of the

proposal. Together, the NutrES Alliance with Consejo Nacional de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (CONASAN) disclosed the Nutritional Food Security Policy in the East of the country. They addressed 56 communicators, academia and civil society members.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

Additionally, CALMA has had eight consultations with grassroots and community organizations / associations to take their perspective to the national processes for the proposal of Food and Nutrition Sovereignty and Security for presidential candidates 2019-2024. CALMA has informed 339 people of their rights to adequate food and nutrition through 4 territorial forums executed at community level with populations of nursing mothers, pregnant women, children and adolescents in coordination with health facilities and community leaders. In addition, 142 professionals sensitized in favor of the results of the evaluation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and its impact on the nutrition of infants and young children. Finally, CALMA reproduced 226 copies of the Natural Medicine Recipe Book and intends they will be delivered to community leaders with the aim of rescuing the use of plants with medicinal use.

GHANA

National flag

Awarded to: Hunger Alliance of Ghana (HAG)

Grant value: USD 199,930 (with the top-up)

Project duration: 01 July 2018 to 29 February 2020 (20 months)

Field visit done in: September 2018

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Founded in 2008, Hunger Alliance of Ghana became the convener of the SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) in 2011 that was strengthened later with the support of SUN Multi-Partner Trust Fund. The role of SUN CSA has been highly recognized at national and subnational levels due to their participation in nutrition dialogues, fund-raising activities, behavior change and nutrition promotion activities. The SUN CSA is already involved in the planning process at the national and district levels to prioritize nutrition and make it visible and relevant in districts' medium-term development plans. This project will enable the CSAs to become more effective in the process of advocacy for the inclusion of nutrition in district development plans and initiate awareness to raise the understanding of nutrition among sub-national policy makers, thereby increasing local ownership and leadership of nutrition prioritization process. The implementation will be focused in twenty (20) high burden malnutrition districts while promoting nutrition visibility and funding at national level through the engagement with Parliamentarians and policy makers.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- The national nutrition dialogue organized by SUN CSA has enabled stakeholders to build consensus on nutrition planning and implementation process. Sixty roundtable discussions have been held at subnational levels for consensus building and effective nutrition planning and implementation.
- SUN CSA, being a key member of the inter-ministerial committee for nutrition, actively contributes to nutrition policy dialogues for scaling up nutrition and nutrition planning process.
- Capacity building to district planning and budget officers enabled them to have an insight into the long-term national nutrition medium term plans.
- Nutrition Sub-Committees were formed in twenty districts and medium term development plans are also in place. Forty Nutrition Champions have been trained to convince the subnational level actors more accountable and committed towards nutrition interventions.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- SUN CSA continuously engages with the Budget Directorate at district level to develop nutrition sensitive annual budget for 2020.
- Continued advocacy and monitoring at the sub-national level in twenty districts have ensured that medium term plans and nutrition investments could be reconciled.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Development of project newsletters and brochures and its wide dissemination has ensured transparency, accountability and project visibility in the subsequent months of project implementation.

KYRGYZSTAN

National flag

Awarded to: Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security

Grant value: USD 200,000 (with the top-up)

Project duration: 09 July 2018 to 30 April 2020 (22 months)

Field visit done in: March 2019

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security was established as a Secretariat of Country's Civil Society Alliance (Kyrgyz Alliance of Civil Society SUN, KACS SUN) in 2015. The KACS CSA consists of 58 non-profit organizations whose significance is recognized at the national level. However, the role of local member organizations is often overlooked primarily due to the limited capacity of these organizations in promoting nutrition and implementing nutrition policies at local level. This project plans to strengthen the advocacy capacity and participation of 10 local non-profit organizations in 2 provinces to address malnutrition in 12 of the most vulnerable communities. This will be achieved through participation of local organizations in the development of midterm nutrition programmes and gathering the evidence of supporting marginalized communities and at the same time, allowing interactions with decision makers at national and subnational levels.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Food Security and Nutrition Programme with the action plan and budget was signed by the Prime Minister in June 2019. CSA members took an active part in the development of this programme to ensure that the action plan is in line with the characteristics of good national nutrition plans.
- Subnational nutrition plans have also been initiated and two subnational nutrition plans in place.
- Six roundtable discussions organized with marginalized CSOs to enable them to contribute to national plans and processes.
- Four parliamentarian champions and key influencers speak about nutrition in key decision making processes related to legislation, policy making, planning and budgeting.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Two Multi-stakeholder platform on nutrition and food security have been created with the active participation of local NGOs
- Five subnational CSO reports were used to inform national and global reporting mechanisms (Global Nutrition Report, SUN Annual Report).
- Joint Annual Assessment for 2019 was conducted in August.

LIBERIA

National flag

Awarded to: Action Against Hunger

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 6 July 2018 - 31 March 2020

Field visit: 28 September 2018 - 3 October 2018

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

During this reporting period, the Steering Committee and membership of SUN Civil Society Alliance of Liberia (SUNCSAL) have been revived and become functional than ever before since its establishment in 2016 following initial efforts in 2014 before the outbreak of the Ebola. Following the first quarter implementation of the project, SUN Civil Society Alliance of Liberia and the SUN Movement in country are seen to have gained more recognition from the new government and sector line ministries (Health, Agriculture, Education, Gender and Social Protection, Public Works and Commerce) for their role in calling for improved coordination, sector policies and financing. This follows series of SUN engagement meetings and discussions with the above mentioned government ministries especially the Ministry of Health in Liberia; thereby contributing to the endorsement of the SUN Focal Point in country.

SUNCSAL and its members hold regular national meetings, participate in trainings, and attend national and sub-regional conference (West African Health Organizations (WAHO) Conference) and the Steering Committee forums. In May 2019, the SUN CSAL participated in an engagement meeting with the Speaker of the 54th National Legislature in order to set the stage for Legislative engagement and awareness raising meetings with him and other cabinet ministers of government.

Action Against Hunger, SUN Secretariat and the SUN Civil Society Alliance of Liberia (UNCSAL) conducted a joint presentation on the provisions of the Code of Marketing Breastmilk Substitute (CMBS) in a validation workshop of the Public Health Bill being reviewed (one that would soon be laid in the Legislative Committee in the House of Legislature for enactment) into which provisions of CMBS is subsumed.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

At county (sub-national) level, SUNCSAL enrolled new members in the platform. There is an increase in the level of nutrition education in order to reduce the spate of malnutrition in their respective communities. Through project and financial management trainings received from Action Against Hunger, the project is so far being effectively implemented and accountability to SUN Civil Society members and other nutrition stakeholders is demonstrated through open book practice.

MALI

National flag

Awarded to: Centre Sahélien de Prestation, d'Etudes, d'Ecodéveloppement et de Démocratie Appliquée (CSPEEDA)

Grant value: USD 193,594

Project duration: 13 July 2018 - 31 May 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing), and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART planning and legislation

The Centre Sahélien de Prestation, d'Etudes, d'Ecodéveloppement et de Démocratie Appliquée (CSPEEDA) has identified parliamentarians and provision of support to raise awareness and provide strategies for improving nutritional status in their constituencies. Specifically, they have hosted 4 hearings and working sessions with elected officials (parliamentarians and local elected representatives) and secured the agreement-in-principle and commitment of 15 nutrition champions. CSPEEDA has established a consultation framework between donors and SUN-OSC to strengthen the nutritional status in Mali. CSPEEDA has secured agreement-in-principle and commitment of 17 parliamentarians in various commissions of the National Assembly as well as 10 municipal elected representatives of the Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM). They have been educated on their role and responsibility to reinforce status improvement strategies in their respective constituencies and have signaled their commitment by signing a protocol.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

CSPEEDA has conducted a budget analysis and advocacy at the national and / or sub-national level to identify ongoing nutrition expenditures, bottlenecks, funding gaps and possible sources of funding.

Outcome 3: Effective implementation and Accountability

In this reporting period, CSPEEDA has established a framework for consultation and exchange between the donor network and SUN-CSO on the one hand, and between the SUN-CSO and the Canadian Embassy on the other. They have also been able to generate community interest in mobilizing local resources for nutrition funding at the community level.

MYANMAR

National flag

Awarded to: Save the Children International (SCI)

Grant value: USD 114,000

Project duration: 25 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 (11 months)

Field visit: done in November 2018

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Save the Children has played a critical role in establishing the SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) in Myanmar. The country joined SUN Movement in 2013 and Save the Children was supported by Multi-Partner Trust Fund to establish SUN Civil Society Alliance in Myanmar. SUN CSA was launched in 2015 with the goal of sustained public, political and financial commitment and action to effectively address undernutrition in Myanmar through the formation of a functioning, cross-sectoral CSA in Myanmar which unites wide-range civil society organizations to ensure a voice is given to a range of small, independent, regional and national organizations to further the aims of the SUN movement. Save the Children continued to take the leading role in the functioning of SUN CSA since the inception of SUN CSA.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan endorsed by 4 ministries (Ministry of Health & Sports, Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettle, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Education)
- CSA was given two seats to represent CSOs at national level nutrition promotion working committee, allowing CSA representation at state/regional level
- CSA engaged in Myanmar SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform in three key areas; capacity assessment,

sub-nationalization and M&E system development and seven states and regions have been prioritized for the implementation.

- The National Nutrition Center (NNC) requested the SUN CSA's Secretariat Team to be part of the Secretariat Team of the Myanmar Nutrition Technical Network
- Manuscript on BBF (Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly initiative) was published in the "Current Development in Nutrition Journal" by American Society for Nutrition.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

- Engagement with Parliamentarians was successfully conducted
- Both National and Sub-National SUN CSA Steering Committee members are committed to continue close collaboration with Members of Parliament to follow up on their commitments for promoting nutrition status of children, adolescents, and women from Ayeyarwaddy Region.
- SUN CSA collaborated with Myanmar Journalism Institute (MJI) to organize a workshop on nutrition and food security advocacy with 18 journalists and the training served as first-ever training of its type
- SUN CSA conducted two Nutrition Advocacy Workshops ('Community Voices and Actions' & 'Local Level Advocacy') to SUN CSA members which was based on Social Accountability tools
- SUN CSA Myanmar is developing a road map to sustain active engagement and clarify role and responsibility with MOHS during the MS-NPAN decentralization process.
- Exchange visit to Lao SUN CSA to share experiences and learn about operation and government engagement mechanisms from the Laos SUN CSA

NAMIBIA

National flag

Awarded to: Synergos Namibia Trust

Grant value: USD 113,988

Project duration: 10 September 2018 to 31 January 2020 (16 months)

Field visit done in: July 2019

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

About

Namibia Alliance for Improved Nutrition (NAFIN), the country's multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platform chaired by Synergos was brought to life around 2010 by the Prime Minister at the time. Although active in early years, the platform's convening power became less significant lately along with the changes in the governance within the country. NAFIN was redesigned and re-established in 2018 to coordinate government action with Civil Society, Private Sector and Academia. Synergos, given its high capacity in implementing a number of nutrition related programmes, is strongly positioned to lead the formation of a collaborative and credible CSA to increase efficiencies at both regional and national levels. Through this project, the capacities of CSOs will be strengthened. Quarterly review and sharing forums will be held with the CSOs which will serve as a leverage point for the CSA to collectively hold the government to account for its mandated nutrition policies. The CSA will hold consultations with local CSOs and prepare them to participate in policy development process so that the voice of marginalized and affected communities will be heard.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Synergos participated in development process of Food and Nutrition Security Council (FNCS), Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNPS) 2018-2028 and National Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan (NMNAP) 2018 -2023.
- Consistent effort has been made to establish Civil Society Alliance for nutrition within the country. Progress has been made in advocacy for engagement, development of organization structures,

- meetings to identify visions of SUN CSA.
- As part of advocacy and knowledge sharing, exchange visit to Zambia was successfully conducted to learn the activities of SUN CSA in Zambia.
- Workshops were organized with faith-based leaders and health professionals, serving as a pilot for future workshops with media representatives, parliamentarians and CSOs. National Media Workshop that was organized during 2019 was covered by two national TV Broadcasters, Newspapers.
- Video productions on the nutrition-based short film “Breakthrough”, short video clips for RightStart Campaign (for 1st 1,000 days advocacy) are in the final stage.

NIGERIA

National flag

Awarded to: Civil Society for Scaling Up Nutrition Nigeria (CS-SUNN)

Grant value: USD 200,000 (with the top-up)

Project duration: 12 July 2018 to 31 January 2020 (18 months)

Field visit: done in September 2018

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition In Nigeria (CS-SUNN) was formed and became a member of global SUN Civil Society Network in 2013. It was officially registered in Nigeria as a CSO/NGO in December 2014. It has extensive experience in nutrition advocacy, nutrition service delivery, capacity building, community mobilization and M&E through its programmes under Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and Partnership for Advocacy in Child and Family Health (PACFaH). This particular project is aimed at complementing the efforts of the Ministry of Budget and National Planning to operationalize the National Policy on Food and Nutrition at subnational levels in Nigeria. This will be done by establishing, strengthening and supporting CS-SUNN state chapters to advocate for implementing the policy and adapting the multi sectoral nutrition plan for the contexts in their states and for adequate funding for implementation.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- National policy for food and nutrition, costed multi-sectoral nutrition plan have been adopted by 3 states.
- Five Six sub-national level costed multi-sectoral nutrition plans have developed so far.
- Advocacy for sub-national multi-sectoral nutrition plans: 6 roundtable discussions have been organized with local level stakeholders; 6 multi-stakeholder meetings conducted to promote multi-sectoral nutrition plan; 16 advocacy engagements done with media at the subnational level for more media coverage.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- Financial resources mobilization: counterpart fund of N250m for Accelerating Nutrition Results (supported by World Bank) has been approved by three states. There is also a release of N50m for Ready to Use Therapeutic Food in Gombe state. All have been the achievements of CS-SUNN's advocacy efforts.
- Budget analysis: CS-SUNN budget core groups have been established in 6 states to track and analyse budget allocation, funds utilization status and reporting on government's commitments. A total of 30 budget analyses were commissioned at sub-national levels.
- Advocacy for resource mobilization: 22 champions and key influencers talked about nutrition in key decision making processes. 6 advocacy briefs on nutrition issues were submitted at policy forums.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- CSOs at subnational level contributed to the progress report submitted at SUN Networks 2019 JAA meeting at the national level.
- CSOs' engagement in planning, implementation of subnational multi-sectoral nutrition plans have been more profound. They are also engaged in multi-sectoral platform meetings coordinated by SUN government focal point.
- CS-SUNN has a sustainability strategy along with a clear resource mobilization component.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

National flag

Awarded to: Save the Children International (SCI)

Grant value: USD 113,772

Project duration: 31 August 2018 to 28 February 2020 (18 months)

Field visit: done in March 2019

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA in Papua New Guinea has not been established yet. Save the Children, in partnership with UNICEF, has established the SUN Coordination Group, comprising National Department of Health (NDOH), National Department of Planning and Monitoring (NDPM), and World Bank. Additionally, Save the Children leads the formal establishment of CSA that will support improved capability of civil society to advocate for increased financial investment for nutrition outcomes and increase the visibility of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive efforts via national and global reporting and accountability mechanisms.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Civil society partners supported the government to develop, sign and roll out multi-sectoral national nutrition policy and the implementation of the nutrition plan.
- CSA supported the advocacy with different stakeholders to establish SUN UN Network and convening of a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder platforms through the government focal person.
- Roundtable discussions were organized at national and subnational level to gain commitments for nutrition by the government at all levels.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- The first ever national budget analysis exercise has been organized to identify the nutrition funding gaps at national and provincial levels. The resource analysis showed that the government for the first time has allocated PGK 7.5 M in the five-year Public investment (2018-2022) to be spent specifically on "Scaling Up Nutrition".
- An advocacy plan has been developed to lobby for improved and strategic resource allocation targeting nutrition programmes at national and subnational levels.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- A group of 9 Civil Society Organizations have been mobilized and trained and they are now engaged in advocacy for nutrition policy and programming.

SENEGAL

National flag

Awarded to: Eau Vive Environnement

Grant value: USD 199,999

Project duration: 11 July 2018 - 31 May 2020

Field visit: 21 January 2019 - 26 January 2019

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART planning and legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing), and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

Thanks to Eau Vive Environment and the CSA of Senegal, civil society organizations, including those at the decentralized level, have the opportunity, through Civil Society Alliances, to contribute to national plans and processes. There are now 21 representatives of civil society organizations working at the national level that have a harmonized understanding of the Multisectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan (SEMP) developed by the country and are aware of the different modalities for its implementation, including the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and the Communication Plan. Additionally, a civil society action plan to accompany the implementation of the National NSMP has been developed.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

Civil society supports the government and 23 local partners in accessing innovative financing sources, including international funds such as the Global Financing Facility (GFF), the Power of Nutrition and financial commitments made by international NGOs. Civil society has also chosen to advocate with the President of the Republic to bring nutrition among the priority sectors to be financed from resources derived from the exploitation of gas and oil.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

The CSA has organized two technical and logistical preparation committees, with members from the administrative authorities, technical services, and the focal points of the civil society organizations, are set up in Madam (north) and Sidious (South). Terms of reference for the conduct of activities are developed and shared with the members of the technical committees.

SOMALIA

National flag

Awarded to: Peace Action Society Organization for Somalia (PASOS) and African Network for the Prevention & Protection against Child Abuse & Neglect (ANPPCAN)

Grant Value: USD 227,387 (PASOS: USD 113,498 and ANPPCAN: USD 113,889)

Project Duration:

17 September 2018 - 31 March 2020 (PASOS)

17 September 2018 - 31 January 2020 (ANPPCAN)

Field Visit: TBD (PASOS); 23 October 2019 - 24 October 2019 (ANPPCAN)

Targeted Outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing), and Outcome 3 Effective Implementation and Accountability

About

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

During the reporting period, African Network for the Prevention & Protection against Child Abuse & Neglect (ANPPCAN) shared findings from the Mapping exercise of CSOs in nutrition with relevant stakeholders.

Their feedbacks were taken into consideration. They also created a database for the CSA. Funds from the offered financial support to mobilise civil society support the implementation stages of the SUN CSA. Activities funded include personnel, mapping and survey exercise, governance structure development, validation meeting, promotional materials, building the CSA website and the launching event. Executive Committee Meeting was merged with the SUN Task Force Meeting on 16t April as way to co-ordinate efforts of the civil society network with the SUN Champion Office and for civil society members to have input to the multi-stakeholder platform establishment.

The Peace Action Society Organization for Somalia (PASOS) lays the foundation for their new CSA by holding meetings with the Somalia SUN Government Focal Point, and with the consultant and a local partner to ensure that the planning is efficient so that the implementation process is easier and effective.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

Less progress has been made on efforts to track funding and information on investment as multi-stakeholder nutrition platform and common results framework are not in place as of yet.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation and Accountability

PASOS started with the launch the project in the capital of Somalia, Mogadishu, Banadir region and also had a roundtable meeting with the partners, women groups and other stakeholders in Beletweyne, Hiraan region; Luuq, Gedo region; and Johar in Middle Shabelle region. Their local implementing partner carried out the project in Gedo and Johar in Middle Shabelle.

During the reporting period, a number of activities were undertaken towards ensuring that the CSA was established and strengthened. These activities included the establishment and strengthening of the Executive Committee (EC) with currently 10 members. The CSA's EC continues working closely together towards ensuring that their operations are in line with the SUN Movement principles and Civil Society Network (CSN) guidelines with regard to inclusivity and transparency. The CSA will be engaging and working closely with the SUN Secretariat. During the reporting period, the CSA also finalized and validated their Constitution which was endorsed by their members at the General Members' meeting conducted by the hosting organization (ANPPCAN). Coordination mechanisms/governance structures were instituted. Mapping of the CSOs at the national level was finalized in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Development (MoHD). The Executive Committee has identified 6 priority areas within the region based on stunting levels, geographical disparities in terms of arid, semi- arid, high potential areas, urban and rural contexts as well CSO presence to steer the process.

During the reporting period, the CSA has engaged with the SUN Champion Office at the General Members meeting and Technical Committee meetings. Engagement with relevant government line ministries will be coordinated with the government SUN focal point.

The CSA now has an online platform for members to network and share information with the SUN Movement through production and dissemination of regular blog updates and articles, semi-annual SUN CSA e-bulletin and newsletter. The Civil Society Network has now agreed on its governance arrangements, following a broad Consultation. A network chairperson, who is supported by a 10 person steering group, has been appointed. The network is yet to develop a strategy that focuses on improving alignment around national nutrition plans, advocacy, supporting accountability mechanisms and tracking commitments.

SOUTH SUDAN

National flag

Awarded to: Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere International (CARE)

Grant value: USD 200,000 (with the top-up)

Project duration: 13 August 2018 to 30 January 2020 (18 months)

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

CARE is the chair of SUN CSA which was activated in 2017 with 35 CSOs. This project will be hosted and facilitated by CARE to roll-out SUN CSA strategy by improving planning from the grassroots level to the government and building capacity for nutrition advocacy and gender-sensitive programming. This project will enable CSOs to advocate for the commitment of more resources towards a scalable long-term nutrition strategy. CARE will promote cross learning among consortium members and champion the gender mainstreaming and will also provide technical and programmatic oversight of the project implementation.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Two engagement meetings conducted with parliamentarians to create awareness on the importance of nutrition sensitive national planning.
- SUN CSA continued to engage nutrition stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Parliament and Academics, through consultations and advocacy to develop national nutrition policy with CSAs' inputs.
- Nutrition stakeholders and local organizations from 5 states counties were mobilized to explore issues related to malnutrition through 7 roundtable discussions.
- A walkathon was organized during World Breastfeeding Week and the event was broadcasted in media and radios. Stories by Nutrition Champions were also published in local newspapers.
- CSA members have been increasingly committed to contribute towards scaling up nutrition activities.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Local organizations were supported to monitor private sector adherence to key nutrition policies and legislation. They were trained towards nutrition policies, legislation, advocacy and monitoring skills.
- Six counties have active CSA engagement and reporting, addressing gender inequality and women empowerment.
- Two mother groups from marginalized communities were trained to advocate for change for nutrition.
- Training have been organized in 4 counties for local organizations and media to increase their capacity as implementing agents and nutrition storytellers.

SRI LANKA

National flag

Awarded to: World Vision (WV)

Grant value: USD 200,000 (with the top-up)

Project duration: 10 September 2018 to 31 May 2020 (20 months)

Field visit done in: December 2018

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA, named SUN People's Forum in Sri Lanka was founded and registered in 2014 with more than 100 CSO member organizations. World Vision is one of the founding members of SUN CSA and is hosting this project with the objectives to have stronger government partnerships, accountability and services to the most vulnerable, to empower CSOs to contribute to the development of subnational nutrition plans and engage them to address concerns of women and marginalized communities.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Recommendations and inputs from subnational level CSOs were taken into account in the development of National Nutrition Policy which is expected to be in place by January 2020.
- SUN CSA closely worked with the National Nutrition Secretariat for the development of Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN) at the national level, which has now been endorsed by the government.
- SUN CSA also supported the development of MSAPN in 8 districts and that for addition 9 districts is ongoing. Sixteen roundtable discussions were held with local marginalized CSOs to promote their contribution to national plans and processes related to nutrition.
- Nutrition events organized by the project have been published in newspapers.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Subnational CSOs were trained to contribute to the development and implementation of MSAPN at subnational level.
- Under the guidance of SUN CSA, district level CSO committees led special projects with the aim of increasing the capacity of the CSOs to support the nutrition programs in the country.
- The celebrity chef Mr. Publis Silva made a demonstration on how to prepare nutritious food using traditional/local ingredients to 450 students and 25 teachers at Rideegama area.
- SUN CSA organized four capacity building programmes aimed at promoting an enabling environment for breastfeeding by working mothers and they were targeted to media and women groups.

SUDAN

National flag

Awarded to: Addition for Disasters Assistance and Development (ADD) and Talawiet Organization for Development (TOD)

Grant value: USD 226,810 (ADD: USD 113,876 and TOD: USD 112,934)

Project duration

08 October 2018 to 31 March 2020 (ADD)

19 September 2018 to 31 March 2020 (TOD)

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA in Sudan was established in 2016 and became functional in 2018. The activities of SUN CSA will be supported by two organizations through Pooled Fund resources, Addition for Disasters assistance and Development (ADD) and Talawiet Organization for Development (TOD), which are the active members of CSA. The implementation will focus on subnational levels particularly in White Nile State (ADD), Blue Nile State (ADD) and Red Sea State (TOD). The objective is to establish an effective coordination mechanism between CSOs and strengthen their capacities in nutrition interventions. Advocacy including media advocacy and public mobilization will also be done to increase awareness and pressure for action on nutrition.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- A total of 57 Community Based Organizations from two states have been trained and the CSA branch has been set up.
- ADD led the initiative to authorize and activate a law to rationalize the use of breast milk substitutes in coordination with the CSA.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- ADD is actively trying to engage CSA members in regular nutrition meetings. Around 5% of CSA members regularly present in the meetings.
- Behavioural change campaigns were conducted in White Nile and Blue Nile states to promote and adopt good nutrition practices. ADD and the alliance organizations discussed with the leaders of Abofarwa and Alnakhalat communities to orient them about SUN project and nutrition promotion activities especially for children and pregnant mothers and interventions for environmental sanitation.

Note: the results reported are confined to the achievement of ADD. Due to the deregistration of TOD and Alafia (CSA Chair) by Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) happened in November 2019, the grantee, together with the other organizations, with the support of UN organizations are in discussion on the future of ongoing activities. The government seems to have flexibility in their approach and TOD may have the opportunity to complete their activities. SMS and UNOPS is in touch with the actors in the country and the CSN network to react based on the situation.

SUN Pooled Fund Window 1 - Cycle 2

AFGHANISTAN

National flag

Awarded to: Action for Development (AfD)
Grant value: USD 199,940
Project duration: 12 June 2019 to 30 September 2020 (16 months)
Field visit: TBD
Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

About

SUN CSA was established at central level in 2018 as part of Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition agenda and currently composed of 25 CSOs. The extent is currently limited to the central level and there is a need to further strengthen the CSA at subnational level for more efficient involvement by CSOs in nutrition interventions. In addition, existing member organizations in CSA have very little experience/expertise in the area of nutrition. There is also a lack of coordination and mobilization mechanism among CSOs. This project aims to build around 3 main sequential efforts: 1) processes to support the establishment of the new CSA; 2) development and consolidation of Governance and Funding mechanisms of the CSA; and 3) CSA Advocacy interventions. The implementation will be done in close partnership with Afghanistan Human Rights Organization (AHRO).

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Mapping of CSOs for capacity building activities has been started, the trainings are late due to late start of the project.
- Afghanistan Food Security and Nutrition Agenda Strategic plan 2019-2023 has been developed, endorsed and ready for implementation.
- The concept for Establishment of Food Safety and Control authority has been approved by the cabinet of Afghanistan.
- A total of 7 multi stakeholder platforms, High Level Steering Committee, Executive Committee, Nutrition Working Group, Food Security Nutrition Working Group, Advocacy and Public Awareness Working Group, Donor Coordination Group and Business Network are active.
- One more province (Bamyan) will be added for capacity building and round table discussions with local CSOs, total provinces count to five.

BURKINA FASO

National flag

Awarded to: Action Contre la Faim
Grant value: USD 200,000
Project duration: 1 June 2019 - 30 September 2020
Field visit: TBD
Targeted outcomes: Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

About

The SUN Network of Civil Society for Nutrition (RESONUT) of Burkina Faso, with the support of the Pooled Fund, will implement this project in consortium with the chair of RESONUT's executive board, Action Contre la Faim. Their project is a continuation of an existing advocacy and communication initiative called "Change - Act - Progress for a Burkina Faso Free from Malnutrition" (CAP Project). The project aims to set up a Nutrition Champions Club that strengthens local nutrition advocacy. In addition, the project will also increase the advocacy capacity of its members and local media for specialized advocacy and communication as RESONUT decentralizes to the subnational level.

Progress

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

The SUN Network of Civil Society for Nutrition of Burkina Faso (RESONUT) has selected the regions in which it will decentralize and has called for project submissions. RESONUT will select these projects and support them. The alliance has already completed a self-assessment with all of its civil society partners. As a result, the project produced its foundation or "anchoring" documents for the Head of State as the government's official position paper on nutrition. RESONUT amended those papers for a version that went to the Presidency of Faso. Finally, the project team has increased its coordination with the SUN Government Focal Point to vet and approve the country's Nutrition Champions.

CAMBODIA

National flag

Awarded to: Helen Keller International (HKI)

Grant value: USD 199,513

Project duration: 09 April 2019 to 30 September 2020 (18 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Cambodia joined the SUN Movement in 2014 and SUN CSA was established in 2015. The CSA has grown since then, reaching to 45 organizations and it is well respected in Cambodia, holding a table at national nutrition working groups and platforms. The Executive Committee of CSA is currently chaired by HKI. Considering the need to raise the profile of nutrition across all aspects of Cambodian society, particularly at subnational and community levels, this project will commence by SUN CSA with HKI being the host, to conduct multi-sectoral nutrition advocacy events at subnational level. The events include subnational Nutrition Days, World Breastfeeding Week celebrations and Nutrition Public Forums.

Results

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- SUN CSA Cambodia hosted the SUN CSN Asia Regional Workshop and Budget Analysis for 2019, bringing 13 countries together.
- During the celebration of World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) at both national and subnational levels, 20 media outlets published 54 media stories on radio, TV and print that reached all over the country to promote breastfeeding and cover WBW2019.
- There were also university forums, youth nutrition champion campaigns, subnational level stakeholder consultations happened during the reporting period. The grantee held media training and CSA capacity building webinars as well.

- All SUN Network stakeholders (including SUN CSA Cambodia, SUN UN Network, SUN Donor Network, SUN government focal points) gathered together to develop Annual SUN Joint Assessment Report for 2019. The report was disseminated with wider sectors and stakeholders at the national workshop.
- SUN CSA Network has grown by adding 8 new members during this period.
- In terms of fund mobilization, USD 170,000 was raised (USD 70,000 from Global Financing Facility Small Grants Mechanism and USD 100,000 from Save the Children) to support advocacy activities and to conduct Asia Regional SUN CSN workshop.
- Establishment of multi-sectoral subnational platforms is in progress.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

National flag

Awarded to: Action Contre la Faim

Grant value: USD 199,406

Project duration: 24 April 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

With the support of Action Contre la Faim, the Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) formalized the network of civil society organizations in 2017 with the aim of coordinating nutrition interventions at the national level. The Civil Society Alliance has 25 members in various nutrition-sensitive sectors (health, agriculture, environment, natural resource management, etc.). The presidency is ensured by the Convention of the Ivorian Civil Society (CSCI), the Secretariat by the Federation of consumers of Côte d'Ivoire (FAC-CI) and the treasury by the Pastoral care of the health of the Catholic Church.

Through the Pooled Fund Project, the Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) will actively participate in the sustainable implementation of the National Multisectoral Nutrition Plan (PNMN) and Regional Nutrition Plans. In addition, the SCIEN intends to participate in the study of traceability of nutrition expenditure and identification of funding gaps to participate in joint efforts to mobilize financial resources for national and regional nutrition plans.

Progress

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

The Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) intends to develop a national and regional Multisectoral Nutrition Plans through the Pooled Fund Project. Thus far, a subnational platform was installed in the Marahoué region and revitalized the Tchologo region. Thanks to the Pooled Fund, these platforms increased their understanding of malnutrition and regional planning efforts thanks to training in nutrition, advocacy techniques, project management and resource mobilization, and gender. The SCIEN also conducted a situational analysis with information collected from health authorities, regional directorates, and community focus groups. The analysis revealed that the role of animal and fishery resources in these regions is crucial in the fight against malnutrition. It also revealed the intersection between malnutrition and insufficient social protections for vulnerable young girls.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

Through the Pooled Fund Project, the Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) Advocacy organized meetings with three private companies (UTB and COVIMA in Bouaflé and SECO in Ferkessedougou) to highlight these companies' mutually beneficial interests in financially supporting their respective communities. The companies have agreed to continue the dialogue.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability
The Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) aims to increase participation and meaningfully contribute to national and regional (Marahoué and Tchologo) multisectoral nutrition plans. With the support of the Pooled Fund Project, the Ivorian Civil Society Committed to Nutrition (SCIEN) has distilled key recommendations:

1. Popularize long-term preservation techniques for perishable food products;
 2. Put an end to the intensive use of chemicals in agricultural activity;
 3. Regularly reshape the village tracks for access to health centers and for the evacuation of food and fruit products from the fields;
 4. Put an end to gold mining which destroys land and pollutes water;
 5. Organize awareness campaigns on the consumption of local food;
 6. Increase awareness at the community level of the importance and practice of exclusive breastfeeding;
- Etc.

ETHIOPIA

National flag

Awarded to: Save the Children International (SCI)

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 20 May 2019 to 30 September 2020 (17 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA in Ethiopia was established in 2013 with 11 founding members. It has now grown to 62 organizations with Save the Children currently acting as the chair. Although the engagement of civil society and academia in the alliance has significantly increased in the past few years, it needs to bring in more members to further strengthen the capacity of national and regional government to hold to account nutrition sensitive and specific sectors and partners for financial and technical commitments and its sustainability. It is very crucial to make sure that CSA members actively contribute to the achievement of nutrition strategies at national and sub-national levels to address inequality in nutrition outcomes among different geographic areas, population groups and gender variations. The purpose of the project is to ensure that the food and nutrition policy, associated strategies, and different initiatives and plans are adequately supported, made effective and sustainable through SMART planning, financial resourcing and creating an enabling environment for implementation at national and regional levels. The project will be implemented at national and regional levels in four regions.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- The National Nutrition Programme (NNP) implementing sectors have started mainstreaming nutrition into their sectoral plans, programmes and strategic documents.
- ECSC-SUN (SUN CSA) has also been supporting the government in the development and finalization of the food and nutrition strategy of Ethiopia by hiring consultants using the fund secured

from Irish Aid. The food and Nutrition strategy has gone through the subsequent review process and reached the fourth draft stage which will further be reviewed, finalized and endorsed.

- ECSC SUN's contribution under this project will be realized in later reports.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- The Seqota Declaration, the showcase of the national nutrition program, has conducted financial tracking and resource mapping exercise in selected Seqota declaration implementation woredas in Tigray region through financial support secured from SUN CSA member agency (Nutrition International). The assessment result is expected to give insights and will serve as a reference for the costing exercise which SUN CSA will be supporting to finalize the food and nutrition strategy of Ethiopia.
- SUN CSA have been providing technical support through active engagement and participation in consultative meetings and dissemination workshops organized for the Seqota Declaration financial tracking and resource mapping exercise.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Various meetings and workshops have been organized to ensure effective implementation of the national nutrition program by the implementing sectors and development partners.
- SUN CSA participated and provided technical support during the National Nutrition Technical Committee and the National Nutrition Coordinating Body meetings including the National Nutrition Program (NNP II) review and planning workshop organized for representatives of the NNP implementing sectors and partners.

REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

National flag

Awarded to: Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile Guinéenne

Grant value: USD 198,175

Project duration: 12 June 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

The Civil Society Alliance of Guinea, called the Civil Society Working Group on Nutrition (GTN / SC), is chaired by the Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile Guinéenne (CNOSCG) and seven other nation non-profit organizations. Its mission is to “build the capacity of Guinean civil society for the promotion of nutrition in Guinea.”

With financial support from the SUN Pooled Fund and technical assistance from Helen Keller International, the Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile Guinéenne (CNOSCG) with strengthen the capacities of Guinean civil society organizations (CSOs) so they may better mobilize, contribute, and implement Guinea's new nutrition plan. The project will also increase membership and resources within the national SUN Civil Society platform. Finally, the project will identify and empower local elected officials, champions and women's groups to advocate for nutrition and promote good practices.

Progress

Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

With the help of the Pooled Fund, the Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile Guinéenne (CNOSCG) has revitalized the Guinean civil society alliance. It has convened a multi-sectoral group of actors, including members of civil society, parliamentarians, and media, to pilot and advocacy and communication plan for the adoption of legislation on the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes. The CNOSCG has finalized the advocacy and communication with members of the alliance. The alliance has identified 17 local civil society organizations working in the 40 communes as target areas. Even in the early stages of the project, the project team has noted a change of perception on nutrition at national and sub-national level. The topic of nutrition is moving beyond the circles of the healthcare sector, as social actors recognize the importance of their role in reducing malnutrition.

Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing)

The project team will initiate the civil society organization and donor mapping activities in the ninth month of the implementation period. With this database of information, they will be able to efficiently fundraising for future nutrition interventions at the national and provincial level.

Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

The Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile Guinéenne (CNOSCG) had identified and gained support of 30% of mayors at the project's provincial level. With their endorsement, the grant project completed a nutrition capacity-building workshop for 17 civil society organizations.

INDONESIA

National flag

Awarded to: Nutrition International (NI)

Grant value: USD 196,374

Project duration: 01 May 2019 to 30 September 2020 (17 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

The Republic of Indonesia joined the SUN Movement in 2011. The SUN Secretariat organizes six networks including Government, Donor and UN System, Business Network, Civil Society Alliance, Academia and Professional Organizations and Media. The network structure of CSA, Academia and Professional Organizations is not properly formed compared to the other networks. This is also part of the recommendation from 2018 SUN Joint Assessment. Technical Assistance is required to strengthen the SUN CSA structure and enable the CSA to engage more effectively in advocacy, budget analysis and nutrition sensitive planning. Nutrition International leverages its provision of technical assistance support (through the TAN project) to improve the capacity of SUN Secretariat to design, deliver, and track the progress of nutrition programs and to generate, learn from and adopt knowledge of what works for effective implementation of the outcomes planned as part of the grant.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- CSA Platform was re-established with 20 CSOs. SUN CSA has actively participated and engaged in many activities of government convergence approach and integrated activities to reduce stunting.

- Five CSA representatives actively participated in the annual SUN CSA joint assessment conducted in September 2019.
- NI is in the process of developing a governance model for the SUN CSA through intensive consultations with stakeholders.
- Inputs and feedback from CSA members were incorporated in the development of the National Midterm Development Plan and National Strategy for Stunting Reduction.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- National SUN CSA has managed several activities to seek financial resourcing for joint activities.
- CISDI (member of SUN CSA) has been invited to submit a proposal for the UNOPS Innovation and Research Fund (IRF) to pilot a small innovative project to reduce stunting in Banten province.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- A nutrition help book that provides guidelines for field nutritionists and health cadres has been drafted and will be shared with SUN CSA members at national and local level.
- Draft of policy briefs based on innovation at the CSO level available for submission at multi-stakeholder platform meetings.
- Lessons learned from the successful model from CSA members were compiled and shared among national CSA members.
- Database of National CSA members established.
- Pre SUN joint assessment for SUN CSA conducted and the result submitted to the SUN focal point.

KENYA

National flag

Awarded to: Nutrition International

Grant value: USD 199,999

Project duration: 1 May 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing)

About

Nutrition International Kenya (formerly known as Micronutrient Initiative Kenya), will work with the SUN CSA secretariat to facilitate financial and technical support from the SUN CSA in developing the Kenya Nutrition Action Plan (KNAP) 2019-2022. The KNAP will include a common results measurement and accountability framework for all actions across sectors. In addition, NI will coordinate technical support to development of at least 20 costed multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral Sub-national (County) nutrition action plans (CNAPS). NI will facilitate international and domestic resource mobilisation to fully finance nutrition plans. Sub-national level capacities will be enhanced in tracking and advocating for prioritisation and policy formulation in this regard.

Kenya's SUN Civil Society Alliance (SUN CSA) was set up in October 2013 to 'Mobilize Civil Societies to Champion Scaling up Nutrition in Kenya. The alliance primarily undertakes capacity building of civil society organizations (CSOs) to scale up nutrition and advocacy at national and local levels. The network supports the government and, in particular the Ministry of Health to develop nutrition related policy, capacity and communication documents. The SUN CSA was officially launched on the first SUN Global Day of Action on 9th May 2014. The launch provided a platform to discuss nutrition progress in Kenya since 2012.

Progress

Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

The Pool Fund Project has facilitated structured functioning of existing coordination mechanisms and platforms at national and sub national levels. Membership has broadened from 36 to 48 civil society organizations.

Thirty out of 47 counties have County Nutrition Technical Forums (CNTF), which will be translated into the Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSP). At least 20 MSPs have been formed, of which 10 are operational at sub-national level enabling review and delivery of joint action plans, monitoring frameworks, technical support to sub-national governments and joint results. The SUN CSA in Kenya is working with the relevant CSOs and sub-national levels to make the remaining 10 MSPs to be operational by March 2020.

Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing)

Multi-sectoral planning at national and sub-national level for nutrition has improved awareness among other sectors, which is expected to improve financing, implementation and monitoring of nutrition interventions. This has also resulted in the validation of 6 costed nutrition action plans, 4 of which were expected to be launched in November 2019.

MADAGASCAR

National flag

Awarded to: Action Contre la Faim

Grant value: USD 199,859

Project duration: 26 April 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

The civil society alliance in Madagascar, named Harmonisation des Initiatives en Nutrition et sécurité Alimentaire Action Contre la Faim or (“HINA”) was formed in 2013 and acts as the main interlocutor of civil society with the government in matters of nutrition. HINA currently brings together more than 250 national and international associations / NGOs, located in 11 regions of Madagascar. Its members work in different specific and / or nutrition sensitive sectors. The alliance is chaired by Action Contre la Faim, who deploys its technical expertise to strengthen the capacity of members .

Progress

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Integration of nutrition into the Emergency Plan for Madagascar,
- Influence of the speech of HE Mr. Andry Nirina RAJOELINA to encourage the commitment of the Malagasy State on the importance of Nutrition at TICAD / IFNA
- The Pooled Fund has more generally revitalized the CSA in Madagascar
- The Pooled Fund is supporting the CSA’s contribution in Madagascar’s universal healthcare policies (pending results)

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- The Pooled Fund supported CSA contributions in the 2020 Initial Finance Law and in their national nutrition plan’s investment framework.
- The Pooled Fund supported CSA involvement at the international (Dakar resource mobilisation) and national level (translating that knowledge into the national nutrition plan’s investment framework).

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- The Pooled Fund has contributed to an enabling environment in Madagascar by supporting the CSA's engagement on the international stage. They have participated in the 71st World Health Assembly and demonstrated the value of civil society in the health sector with French representatives in Madagascar.

MOZAMBIQUE

National flag

Awarded to: Helen Keller International

Grant value: USD 199,998

Project duration: 22 April 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

With the help of the Pooled Fund, Helen Keller International will work with SUN Civil Society Organization platforms in Nampula, Tete and Inhambane provinces to provide support for implementation plans recently developed. HKI in partnership with SUN/CSA platform and European Union grant provided technical support to the SUN platforms to develop operational plans in 2018. The purposes of the implementation plans are (1) to ensure that nutrition is on the agenda at district and provincial levels and (2) to put into practice effective coordination of nutrition-related activities.

Progress

Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

In spite of the disastrous cyclone that hit in May 2019, the Civil Society Alliance platforms in Mozambique are committed to implementing nutrition plans at the subnational level. First, the Pooled Fund project team recruited staff during the general election cycles in September/October 2019. Afterwards, the team focused on building local capacity for nutrition advocacy. Thus far, the Pooled Fund project has supported 25 journalists in professional communication on nutrition and nutrition-related topics. This specialized training has improved popular understands of nutrition by addressing community beliefs and taboos that were previously unknown to both the project team and the government. The project extended the opportunity for advocacy training to 75 participants from 3 provincial platforms.

The civil society alliance in Mozambique is also using the Pooled Fund to build an enabling environment with the private sector. The project team hosted roundtable discussions with the businesses in 4 provinces to lay the groundwork for a future alliance in nutrition.

MALAWI

National flag

Awarded to: Civil Society Organisations Nutrition Alliance (CSONA)

Grant value: USD 199,745

Project duration: 1 May 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Founded in 2013, CSONA was established as a coalition of both international and local Non-Governmental organizations with the secretariat managed by Concern Worldwide. By June 2016, the secretariat became registered as an independent Nonprofit Organisation under the trustees' act of Malawi. Since then the Organisation, has evolved to be an independent self-governing and sustaining with own systems and operations. Since its establishment, CSONA role in nutrition has been appreciated being the sole mouth piece for civil society on Nutrition in Malawi as such it is an active member of the National Multi sectoral Nutrition Committee as well as the Nutrition Policy Advisory Committee.

CSONA being the leading civil society alliance on nutrition in Malawi will use this project to enhance the participation of its members to pursue a common nutrition agenda through participation in the various multi stakeholder platforms for nutrition.

Progress

Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

Coordination among member organizations and other stakeholders has strengthened and this has led to development of joint implementation plans and prioritizing district level nutrition advocacy that influence decision making and policy change towards scaling up nutrition. There is also an improved participation of CSOs in DNCC meetings.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

There is a reduction of allocation of domestic funds to the Department of Nutrition and HIV/AIDS. The government failed to commit to funding nutrition outcomes as stipulated in the national policy documents and there is no funding for nutrition interventions in the districts. Advocacy is required to ensure increased resources to nutrition. CSONA build the capacity of CSO Platforms in advocacy to influence allocation of resources to nutrition at district level. CSONA through the existence of other projects has also strengthened the advocacy activities for increased allocation of resources to nutrition as well as the enactment of the food and nutrition bill through supporting budget analysis activities and lobby activities to introduce nutrition vote and remove Value Added Tax on Water.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

CSONA has managed to establish systems and processes that improve coordination, monitoring, accountability and learning of the work of Civil Society on scaling up nutrition. This has been done through the establishment of the steering committee, revamping of CSONA chapters and through Global Day of Action for Nutrition.

NEPAL

National flag

Awarded to: South Asia Infant Feeding Research Network (SAIFRN)

Grant value: USD 199,793

Project duration: 08 April 2019 to 30 September 2020 (18 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA in Nepal was established in 2014 with SAIFRN-Nepal being the founding member and Executive Committee member. The Alliance has been in the forefront to ensure the active and meaningful participation

of civil society organizations engaging in key decision-making processes related to nutrition plans, policies and programs in the country. Nepal has been transforming from a centrally controlled unitary political and administrative system to the federal structure as per the new constitution. Local governments have constitutional power to develop policies and also generate their own resources through taxation and revenue systems. However, both local government and local CSOs have capacity to develop context specific targeted policies and plans for nutrition despite their commitments during election. Therefore, this project has aimed to build capacity of local CSOs and local governments to prepare policies and plan with clear targets to enhance implementation skills, at the same time advocate them on the importance of prioritizing nutrition sensitive and specific interventions as one of the development agenda and the significance of investing in women and children. The project will focus its activities in two most nutrition vulnerable provinces.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- An advocacy and capacity building facilitator guide has been developed. The guide will serve as an important guiding and reference document for all the stakeholders who are directly and indirectly involved in planning multi-sectoral nutrition action plans.
- Rural municipalities for the implementation of the project activities have been identified.
- Local nutrition champion has been identified to advocate for evidence based Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (MSNAP).
- Through orientation meetings, coordination has been initiated with local government, CSOs and other stakeholders at subnational level.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- Capacity Building Workshop on Nutrition Situation Analysis and Action Planning for Rural Municipalities has been conducted. The workshop aims to build the capacity of humanitarian partners in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating nutrition-sensitive and specific policies, strategies, plans and programs at rural municipality level. Further capacity building activities are underway.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Commitments from mother's group and marginalized groups for improved nutrition has been achieved and is on track.

NIGER

National flag

Awarded to: Tous Unis En Faveur De La Nutrition (Collectif TUN)

Grant value: USD 199,719

Project duration: 12 June 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Following Niger's accession to the SUN Movement in 2011, a number of civil society organizations came together in a framework called TUN Collective (Tous Unis pour la Nutrition) to take an active part in the

effort of inclusive mobilization. From this point onwards, Collectif TUN represents the SUN civil society alliance in Niger through training, capacity-building, and advocacy through a human-rights perspective.

Thanks to the support of the Pooled Fund, Collectif TUN will revitalize the network in partnership with international non-profit organizations, UN partners and key sub-grant recipients like Welfare of Women and Children in Niger (BEFEN). Through its regional branches, Collectif TUN aims to guarantee the decentralization and sustainability of the National Nutrition Security Policy in two regions with the highest prevalence of malnutrition. This project will require planning, budgeting and implementing regional plans in partnership with local community groups.

Progress

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

The recipient has recruited teams for the regional branches of Maradi and Zinder. Maradi and Zinder are regions located in the center of the country, hundreds of kilometers away from the more populated three-border area (Mali-Burkina Faso-Niger) and far from the Malian border or the Lake Chad Basin. The project will promote the driving role of local associations which will be involved in the planning and execution of activities. About fifty community organizations in Zinder and Maradi have been pre-identified from the list drawn up by the Directorate of NGOs and Development Associations in Niger (DONGAD - via the PASOC program, Support to Civil Society). They intervene in the fields of health, food security, promotion of women and children, rural development, education and in a multisectoral manner. They will be contacted by regional focal points, who will prioritize two per region with the strongest community base.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

In this early stage of the project, the recipient began laying the political groundwork for financial resourcing activities. Collectif TUN seeks to influence the regional allocation of funds towards nutrition. It also aims to garner alternative sources of funding for its subnational platforms to continue activities after the grant is over.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

The recipient held two, introductory high-level meetings. The first meeting was with the nutrition technical group (GTN) which includes the Director of Nutrition and the SUN Government Focal Point. The project team also met with the Knowledge Management and Capitalization Division of the “High Commission on the initiative of Nigerien people feeding Nigerien people” (3N). This division is in charge of popularizing the national nutritional security policy (PNSN).

PAKISTAN

National flag

Awarded to: Nutrition International (NI)

Grant value: USD 196,452

Project duration: 01 May 2019 to 30 September 2020 (17 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

SUN CSA in Pakistan was established in 2014, a year after Pakistan joined the SUN movement and currently has 160 CSOs as members. With Nutrition International as the secretariat, SUN CSA has been a main contributor, mobilizer and technical facilitator for development as well as implementation of the federal and provincial nutrition strategies and capacity building. Malnutrition in Pakistan is still a challenge due to limited availability of data for planning and effective implementation, lack of capacity and coordination at

subnational levels. Furthermore, with a new government in place, there is a need to renew advocacy efforts for increased nutrition financing in government budgets. The project will undertake evidence based budget advocacy with policy and decision makers at national and sub-national levels. The project will also contribute to the implementation of provincial multi-sectoral nutrition strategies by also engaging key stakeholders for reviewing progress and challenges in implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition strategies, and complementing government's efforts for enhanced implementation.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Establishment of a separate cabinet division for social protection and poverty alleviation by the Prime Minister showed there is an increased prioritization for nutrition by the government.
- The Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division (PASSD) set up an inter-ministerial nutrition task force to shepherd nutrition under the Ehsaas program. More recently, a multi-sectoral body under the Division has also been notified at national level under the leadership of Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, who is also a member of the SUN Lead Group.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- With the ongoing economic crisis in the country, the government has reduced the development budget. SUN CSA has encouraged provincial SUN units to track nutrition budget allocation. The evidence will be documented and used for advocacy for additional budget allocation for nutrition.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- SUN CSA has revised its strategic objectives and is currently in the process of developing its next 5-year strategic plan, to align and contribute to the national efforts for reducing hunger and malnutrition in the country.

PERU

National flag

Awarded to: CARE Perú

Grant value: USD 178,053

Project duration: 23 April 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and Outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

In 2011, CARE Perú became a national non-profit organization as part of the CARE INTERNATIONAL associations network. CARE Perú and civil society partners formed the Initiative against Child Malnutrition (IDI) in 2005, to promote public policies and concrete actions aimed at reducing chronic malnutrition.

CARE Peru, on behalf of the Initiative against Child Malnutrition (hereinafter IDI), plans to facilitate compliance with political commitments to reduce chronic child malnutrition and anemia with the elected authorities of the governments regional.

With the support of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund, this project will contribute to the implementation of the Multisectoral Plan to Fight Anemia (PMLCA) at the sub-national level, and in particular in the Lambayeque, Lima Region, Madre de Dios, Moquegua, Pasco, Piura, Puno and Lima Metropolitan regions. It will do so through a combination of advocacy, technical assistance, and promoting region youth

organizations. It will influence these regions to fulfil the “2019-2022 Governance Agreements” that would reduce chronic infant malnutrition and anemia in children under 3 years of age. This project is based upon the previous strategy initiated by the 2018 Governance Agreements and is congruent with the existing national nutrition policy’s plans at the sub-national level.

Progress

Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

The regional governments have ratified their commitments, in the form of regional regulations or ordinances) to implement the Multisectoral Plan to Fight Anemia. The project has assisted in forming technical teams but dialogue with authorities is a slow process. However, the dynamism of regional youth organizations is gaining the attention of regional government authorities. More information is now available on the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion, including an upcoming virtual learning platform for youth advocacy and nutrition monitoring.

The Pooled Fund project is also supporting the Initiative against Child Malnutrition (IDI), which has participated in technical meetings with partners to evaluate state guidelines and assurance of commitments. The team looks forward to finishing its analysis on the “Balance on Government Actions to reduce childhood malnutrition and anemia” that will be presented to the Peruvian government later in the project period.

PHILIPPINES

National flag

Awarded to: International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR)

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 16 April 2019 to 30 September 2020 (18 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

The Philippines joined the SUN Movement in 2014. This commitment to the movement is led by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) at the national level, and by SUN CSA Philippines in the civil society sector which works all the way down to the local level. IIRR is a founding member of the Philippine Coalition of Advocates for Nutrition Security (PHILCAN) which established SUN CSA Philippines. Being the convenor of SUN CSA, IIRR is actively involved in development of SUN CSA’s strategic plan for 2018-2020. IIRR is also largely engaged in SUN CSN activities. This project is designed by IIRR, in collaboration with the CSA members, NNC and technical partners, to launch a national effort to combat nutrition issues through multi-level and multi-stakeholder action through stronger nutrition sensitive programming within government agencies and SUN CSA members.

Results

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Technical Working Group (TWG) for Nutrition Sensitive Programs (NSPs) has been established with the objective to guide and monitor the programs.
- Building on an existing body of knowledge and early experiences of various institutes and agencies, the primers were drafted to serve as a guide for the National Nutrition Council (NNC), program planners and implementers from government and non-government sectors on tweaking non-nutrition programs to contribute to nutrition.

- During the SUN CSA Asia regional workshop, other SUN-CSA countries learned about the twin strategy of advocacy and capacity building of the on-going SUN Pooled funds supported project in the Philippines.
- Nutrition sensitive interventions are also integrated in the Annual Investment Plan (AIP).
- Given engagement of Department of Agriculture (DA) through the NSP convention and follow up bilateral meetings with IIRR, nutrition dimensions of DA's Gulayan sa Barangay (GSB)/Community Gardening program has strengthened.

TANZANIA

National flag

Awarded to: Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania (PANITA)

Grant value: USD 200,000

Project duration: 16 May 2019 to 30 September 2020 (17 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

Founded and became a member of SUN in 2010, Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania (PANITA) is a Civil Society Alliance of over 300 local and international CSOs. Tanzania has enjoyed high level political will and commitment towards improving nutrition, demonstrated through crafting and implementation of good policies and strategies at national level (National Nutrition Strategy, National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction, etc..) and crucial structural development for nutrition (establishment of high-level steering committee on nutrition). All these developments provide an enabling environment for planning, budgeting and execution of nutrition intervention for both government and other key stakeholders at local level. Despite commitments and budget allocations from the government, the amount promised is still not sufficient to address all the nutrition needs of the country based on the World Health assembly targets by 2025. More work needs to be done at the national level to influence the increase in resources allocated for nutrition. This project will apply a selected range of interventions, including evidence based advocacy and awareness creation, capacity building of CSOs, synergism and collaboration with multi-stakeholders, which will have high likelihood to bring desired outcomes both at national and local levels.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Through the Parliamentary Budget Meeting, PANITA was able to capture key takeaways from future advocacy and engagement with policy makers.
- Parliamentarians were able to convince the government to maintain the national nutrition policy as a standalone policy rather than merging it into the National Health Policy due to the multisectoral nature of nutrition.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- The SUN CSA participated in the 3rd Review of Nutrition Compact which is a contractual agreement between the Vice President and Regional Commissioners to foster the implementation of National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (2016-2021).

- There has been an increased accountability and transparency for nutrition activities among the Regional Councils and technical officials. The improvements are evident by having an increased funding allocation for nutrition from the council's own resources.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- This project builds stronger collaboration at subnational level by bringing all key nutrition stakeholders together. CSOs were trained to allow effective participation, engagement with government and other stakeholders as well as collaboration among CSOs themselves.
- CSOs were orientated towards the government budget cycle and key policy framework and structures on Terms of Reference for Regional and District Multisectoral Steering Committee on Nutrition (RCMSCN) to understand their responsibilities.

ZAMBIA

National flag

Awarded to: Civil Society Organization for Scaling Up Nutrition (CSO-SUN)

Grant value: USD 199,906

Project duration: 01 May 2019 to 30 September 2020 (17 months)

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation), outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing) and outcome 3 (Effective Implementation & Accountability)

About

The Zambia Civil Society Scaling up Nutrition Alliance (CSO-SUN), founded in 2012 with 75 local and international organizations and civil society groups. The mandate of CSO-SUN is to mobilize, coordinate and build the capacity of the Civil Society in Zambia for an effective civil society led campaign for improved nutrition. Since its establishment, CSO-SUN has played a key role in building political commitment for nutrition, with strategic links to the media, local NGOs, government, donors and international NGOs. The National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan 2017 – 2022 has been developed in Zambia but the costing component was not included in the plan, hindering full implementation. As the need for increased financing remains high and relevant, SUN CSA will utilize this project to press for SMART costed multi-stakeholder multi-sectoral nutrition plans at both national and subnational levels and continue to advocate for increased budgetary allocation for nutrition.

Results

Outcome 1: SMART Planning & Legislation

- Six subnational nutrition plans in place.
- Two roundtables and consultations organized with local, marginalized CSOs at subnational level to contribute to national plans and processes.
- CSO-SUN Alliance held bilateral engagements with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of General Education and Ministry of Finance to lobby for the completion and implementation of the National Food and Nutrition Strategy Plan. Further meetings with tactical directors at the Ministry of Health were held as part of continued advocacy. The National Food and Nutrition Strategic Plan has officially been signed off as a result.

Outcome 2: Financial Resourcing

- As part of national budget analysis activity, CSO-SUN has been invited to review the performance of the 3rd quarter budget to the parliamentary committee.
- Call for Proposal of award valued GBP 1 million was made by DFID to NGOs working in the food and nutrition space, a potential for sustainability.
- An expenditure analysis for nutrition funding was conducted and the gaps identified have been presented to the government and other stakeholders.

Outcome 3: Effective Implementation & Accountability

- Hunger vulnerability assessment has been carried out in Gwembe district and findings have been shared with the government for consideration as they plan the budget.
- Through the Annual General Meeting of CSO-SUN, the updates and reports from subnational organizations have been gathered and reported to SUN.

ZIMBABWE

National flag

Awarded to: Zimbabwe Civil Society Organisations Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance (ZCSOSUNA)

Grant value: USD 193,623

Project duration: 1 May 2019 - 30 September 2020

Field visit: TBD

Targeted outcomes: Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation) and Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing)

About

ZCSOSUNA is a well established, fully functional and well coordinated platform for 119 organisations contributing towards scaling up nutrition in Zimbabwe. It has been a member of the global SUN Civil Society Network since its formation and recently joined the East and Southern Africa Civil Society Network. The alliance plays a major role in nutrition advocacy, policy discussions and implementation in the country. It recognises, supports and contributes to efforts of the Food and Nutrition Security Committee (FNC), Nutrition Technical Working Group and other SUN networks and partners. Activities of the alliance are overseen by an 11 member steering committee which comprises of a mix of international, national and local organisations. 5 member organisations who are also committee members of the steering committees coordinate members at sub national level in 5 regions across the country. Elections to choose a new steering committee were held in June 2018. The current chair of the committee is Save the Children and the deputy is Community Capacity Building Initiative Center for Africa (CCBICA) a local nongovernmental organisation. To facilitate the course of discharging its duties in good faith and due diligence, the new steering committee underwent training on good corporate governance in line with the Zimbabwe Corporate Governance Bill.

Since its formation in 2013, the alliance has witnessed multipronged advocacy engagements with key decision makers and takers in various government ministries including health and child care, agriculture, finance and economic development and labour and social welfare.

ZCSOSUNA with support from Scaling Up Nutrition Research and Academia Platform (SUNRAP), and the Media will strengthen multi-sectoral governance and accountability for nutrition at both national and sub national levels in Zimbabwe.

Progress

Outcome 1 (SMART Planning & Legislation)

Thanks to the Pooled Fund support, the Zimbabwean CSA launched the Kick Out Stunting Campaign. A

youth led campaign that is aimed at raising nutrition awareness among adolescents. This is a first of its kind in the country, and it will be rolled out to Chipinge and Mutasa districts. The project has initiated its steering committee, met with members of parliament, held a press conference on Nutrition for Growth commitments, and attended a radio talk show to highlight the importance of breastfeeding during the 2019 World Breastfeeding week commemorations.

Outcome 2 (Financial Resourcing)

The project witnessed a training of 23 alliance members in nutrition budget analysis and advocacy at sub national level, after the training the members then conducted a national budget analysis for the fiscal year 2019 and produced a detailed budget analysis report and policy brief. The project also engaged members of the parliamentary portfolio committee on health and child care in lobbying for the national budget to set aside a specific budget line for nutrition.

SUN Pooled Fund Window 2 - Cycle 1

Organizations and countries

Region	Country	Organization	Grant Information
Central & South Asia	Bangladesh	The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)	Number of grantees: 12 Total grant value: USD 3,376,261 Average grant value by grantee: USD 300,000
	Kyrgyzstan	Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security	
	Vietnam	Save the Children	
Central America	Costa Rica	Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)	
	Guatemala	Fundacion de la Caficultura (FUNCAFE)	
East Africa	Ethiopia	Ministry of Health	
	Malawi	Civil Society Organization Nutrition Alliance (CSONA)	
	Tanzania	The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)	
	Zambia	National Food & Nutrition Commission	
West Africa	Nigeria	Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition In Nigeria	
	Senegal	World Food Programme (WFP)	
	Sierra Leone	Focus 1000	

Overall objective

To strengthen linkages and joint collaboration within the MultiSector/Stakeholder Platform at both the national and sub-national level, thereby improving the delivery of multi-sectoral nutrition activities that impact nutrition outcomes for nutritionally vulnerable groups including: women, girls and adolescents, and communities at the local level.

BANGLADESH

National flag

Awarded to: The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

Grant value: USD 299,667

Project duration: 19 December 2019 - 31 December 2020

Field visit: TBD

About

The project targets women who are working in Ready-Made Garment (RMG) factories and their children. The RMGs are the major economic drivers of Bangladesh having around 60% women employees. The Second National Plan of Action for Nutrition (NPAN2) has highlighted the importance of nutrition of female garment workers and their children. This project will address this problem by supporting the nutrition agenda that links with the Second National Nutrition Sensitive Country Investment Plan. Assessment of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), food supply chain, food purchasing patterns of female workers will be done by SUN Business Network to develop business cases to invest in supply chains to promote safe and nutritious foods around the factories and communities. BN in Bangladesh is chaired by the Ministry of Industries (MoInd), and an SME Foundation (SMEF) falls under the MoInd. There will thus be support from the MoInd to facilitate and accelerate business investment.

COSTA RICA

National flag

Awarded to: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Grant value: USD 299,967

Project duration: 19 March 2020 - 31 December 2020

Field visit: TBD

About

The country is facing issues related to low exclusive breastfeeding rates, hunger and obesity. A series of public policies are developed and the government is committed to have a comprehensive approach to address these in children and adolescents. The project will contribute to the formalization of alliances that allow innovation in addressing maternal and child nutrition. Nutrition surveillance systems will be developed to collect nationwide information related to the impact of nutrition interventions. Based on the evidence, social communication strategy will be adapted to different population groups. Civil society will be strengthened and empowered to support nutrition interventions.

ETHIOPIA

National flag

Awarded to: Ministry of Health

Grant value: USD 299,765

Project duration: 1 January 2020 - 31 December 2020

Field visit: TBD

About

National nutrition priorities will be carried out via establishment of costed woreda based plan where all

implementers plan, implement, monitor and evaluate together. Multi-stakeholder platform (community lab) will enable common understanding of problems and formulate solutions. Web-based data management system supported by UNICEF will be used to track nutrition sensitive and nutrition specific key performance indicators developed by Seqota declaration units in collaboration with sector ministries. In the future, the performance of this project will be tracked using this system as well as woreda based monthly excel formats with data disaggregated at kebele level. Resource tracking and partnership management tools will be applied to analyse resources and collect partnership data for better decision making, performance management and resource mobilization. For coordination and monitoring purposes, program delivery units will be deployed at federal and regional levels.

GUATEMALA

National flag

Awarded to: Fundacion de la Caficultura (FUNCAFE)
Grant value: USD 299,997
Project duration: 1 January 2020 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

The project focuses on nutrition interventions at three subnational levels. Community level interventions will be focused to the north of the municipality of Momostenango where water purification filters and cement floor will be provided to families and the family members will be trained in good hygiene practices and safe weather consumption to reduce the prevalence of gastrointestinal diseases, one of the main causes of chronic child malnutrition. Strengthening of multi-stakeholder platform with reactivation of work commissions will be done at the municipal level to carry out Food and Nutrition Security Municipal Action Plan. Communication strategy will be developed and implemented to empower the general population and women to raise awareness about chronic malnutrition. Media will also be engaged for nutrition promotion events, radio and text messages. The experience will be shared at the departmental level with the purpose of influencing the decision-making process and as a reference in Momostenango.

KYRGYZSTAN

National flag

Awarded to: Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security
Grant value: USD 298,479
Project duration: 13 December 2019 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

This project aims to develop regional multi-stakeholder nutrition plans and further activities based on the plans in two provinces (Naryn and Issyk-Kul). This will be done through need analysis/identification exercises through participations of multi-stakeholders including vulnerable communities. The experience of Peru CSA will be used to integrate nutrition into political parties' programs. The project will work on involving NGOs from Tajikistan in the SUN movement. Using the online platform, the experience of Kyrgyzstan on the establishment of the Civil Alliance MSP will be transferred, and also necessary conditions and activities will be identified which will help partners from Tajikistan to build up a strategy for the MSP development. The strategy is in line with the State Program on Food Security and Nutrition for 2019-2023.

MALAWI

National flag

Awarded to: Civil Society Organization Nutrition Alliance (CSONA)
Grant value: USD 300,000
Project duration: 20 December 2019 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

The project will strengthen inter-sectoral linkages in an existing multi sectoral stakeholder platform (including government sectors, private sector, UN SUN network, donor representatives, academia and research institutions) with the infusion of more actors such as media and parliamentarians, faith groups. More synergies and interactions will be brought among SUN networks for their joint contribution to nutrition at country and sub-national level. Advocacy for engagement of more actors at subnational levels, promoting linkages between private sector and other SUN Networks for the contribution of business units to scale up nutrition, are the key activities of the project. The project will also promote the participation of champions at all levels by establishing strong linkages with media parliamentarians, business communities and other influential figures to work as advocacy allies in support of nutrition.

NIGERIA

National flag

Awarded to: Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition In Nigeria (CS-SUNN)
Grant value: USD 300,000
Project duration: 17 December 2019 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

With the objective to support multi sectoral coordination and collaboration, the SUN Secretariat will strengthen coordination efforts of the SUN Networks by building capacity and providing technical support. Multi stakeholder platforms will be established at sub-national levels after mapping. Functionality assessment tools for SUN networks will also be developed and deployed at national and sub-national levels. Activities related to awareness raising and promotion of optimal breastfeeding practices and those targeting adolescents and pregnant women will be conducted as well through multi sectoral interventions. Engagement of media, community based organizations, women groups and Nutrition Champions will be the key to the delivery of this project. The project will also provide a unique platform for documenting a range of approaches and lessons about collaboration and coordination.

SENEGAL

National flag

Awarded to: World Food Programme
Grant value: USD 132,382
Project duration: 7 January 2020 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

The objective of this MSP coaching project, led by WFP is to roll out the MSP at sub-national level and build the national capacity of CLM (Cellule de Lutte contre la Malnutrition, the unit to Fight Against Malnutrition) to ensure that nutrition objectives, indicators and priority nutrition actions are reflected in sectoral policies, strategies and plans, leveraging the findings from the Policy and Plan Overview. Digital technologies will be utilized to collect data to track and analyse the implementation status and coverage of NNP at the sub-national level. WFP will also explore prospects to engage mayors and other non-traditional actors in the nutrition area. The project will also consider the feasibility of introducing performance-based financing for sub-national MSPs in a few regions, including with the private sector. It will help nurture innovative partnerships within the country's combined networks with new memberships (UNFPA, UNW, UNDP) which is critical for reaching women and children. Along with this project, WFP will bring partners' recognition towards UNN in providing facilitation and analytical support to bring diverse actors together and support dynamic MSPs at both national and sub-national levels.

SIERRA LEONE

National flag

Awarded to: World Food Programme
Grant value: USD 132,382
Project duration: 7 January 2020 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

To strengthen synergies and increase the sense of ownership among sub-national stakeholders (Community Health Workers, Nutrition Officers, District Councils Nutrition Focal Persons and District SUN Coordinating Bodies), this project will strengthen the capacities for sub-national level scaled-up actions for the prevention and management of malnutrition in specific high burden districts. Capacity building for stronger and effective evidence-based policy advocacy. MEAL services will be implemented largely at national and district levels together with other BCC activities.

TANZANIA

National flag

Awarded to: The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)
Grant value: USD 299,404
Project duration: 19 December 2019 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

The main objective of the project is to improve access to fortified staple foods for school children in Kagera and Tanga regions of Tanzania. SBN Tanzania will work as multi-stakeholder platforms to map relevant actors in the supply chains for fortified foods in schools. Key actors, millers, will then be trained to supply fortified foods with the supply of small equipment for small and medium-scale maize flour millers. Local governments will be supported to enforce by-laws that mandate the use of fortified foods in schools. By strengthening Regional Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Steering Committees (RMNSC), the project will bring the stakeholders necessary to achieve the objective. Advocacy campaigns will also be designed to demonstrate the benefits of fortification for improving the nutrition status of children and adolescents. The project will build strong linkages between the millers and regional/local government authorities and schools to ensure

schools are able to purchase a sustainable supply of fortified ingredients to use in school meals. Lessons learned from the project will be shared across all members of the multi-sector/stakeholder platforms within the two regions.

VIETNAM

National flag

Awarded to: Save the Children
Grant value: USD 249,738
Project duration: 7 February 2020 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

This project aims to promote good practices on nutrition and breastfeeding among female factory workers in two industrial districts (Hai Phong, An Duong) via the CSAs. The goal as an alliance is to be a collective voice. SUN CSA will bring together a wide variety of local, national and international organizations. Based on the capacity assessment of the CSOs (that assess the capacities in many different areas), training will be provided to help organizations find ways to use their expertise to support other members in the alliance. Key gaps will be examined to develop potential strategies to address them. It will start with a pilot phase (evidence based approach) followed by development and scale-up of the project model which will be based on multi sectoral nutrition interventions which combine actions in the health, education and social support sectors.

ZAMBIA

National flag

Awarded to: National Food and Nutrition Commission
Grant value: USD 298,332
Project duration: 2 February 2020 - 31 December 2020
Field visit: TBD

About

With the objective to strengthen the convergence of nutrition interventions at community and household levels, the National Food and Nutrition Commission will support the establishment of Community Nutrition Convergence Centers (CNCCs), the key functions of which include sensitization of 1st 1000 Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP) package by households and communities via education sessions and practical demonstrations, awareness/demand raising of nutrition interventions provided by ministries and other stakeholders and acting as resource centers for nutrition related BCC/IEC materials.