

SUMMARY NOTE
SUN Meeting and Workshop held at United Nations General Assembly
20th and 21st September 2011.

Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement: The First Year and the Future

Introduction

Food and nutrition security is a human right and the basis for economic, social and human development. Under-nutrition prevents people from fulfilling their physical and intellectual potential. It is an extensive and under-recognized global challenge –undermining the cultural, social and economic fabric of humanity. Around 1 billion people in today’s world are food insecure: at least as many are at risk of under-nutrition. One third of all children (171 million) are chronically undernourished. This not only impairs their intellectual, physical and social skills but also precipitates diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancers in later life. Such non-communicable diseases cause the death of 36 million people every year of which 8 million die in developing countries before they reach 60 years of age.

The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement supports country efforts to reduce under-nutrition. It was launched at the *1,000 Days: Change a Life, Change the Future* event co-hosted by the United States and Ireland during the United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2010. One year on, Government leaders in more than 20 countries with high burdens of under-nutrition have declared their intention to scale up the response and to be part of the SUN Movement. Over 100 agencies from donor groups, the United Nations, civil society, the private sector and research institutions have endorsed the SUN Framework that sets out principles for scaling up nutrition and are now working to translate these, guided by the SUN Roadmap, into action.

To mark the first anniversary of the SUN Movement, a High Level Meeting on Nutrition and an Extended SUN Workshop took place during the United Nations General Assembly in New York alongside the United Nations High Level Meeting on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases. The overarching goal of the events was to bring leaders and stakeholders together to discuss the first year of progress of the SUN Movement, to highlight the links between under-nutrition during early life and the development of non-communicable diseases, and to strengthen action in taking the SUN Movement forward.

Progress Report and Compendium of Country Fiches

A report on the progress of the SUN Movement over the last year was prepared for the SUN events in September 2011. The report provides a global overview of progress highlighting major achievements over the last year; specific progress in SUN countries; the scale up of support from different stakeholder groups, including donor Governments, civil society and the private sector; commitments to funding the scale up of nutrition; mechanisms for tracking progress and setting goals; and a vision of the way forward for the SUN Movement. The accompanying compendium of country fiches prepared by SUN countries and their partners provides more detailed information on progress in individual countries.

Documents, presentations and videos from the SUN High Level Meeting and Extended Workshop are available on the Scaling Up Nutrition web portal www.scalingupnutrition.org

High level Meeting on Nutrition

UN headquarters, Conference Room 2, from 11.00 – 13.00 hrs on September 20th 2011

The objectives of the meeting were:

- To showcase inspirational highlights of concrete progress in SUN countries;
- To strengthen support from all stakeholders to SUN countries;
- To highlight the increasing global dimensions of non-communicable diseases and the links with nutrition in early life;
- To build political commitment and momentum for scaling up nutrition and reducing under-nutrition and its consequences; and
- To establish a shared vision and future outcomes for SUN.

Over 440 participants attended the meeting including Heads of State and Government; heads of agencies, funds and programmes in the United Nations system; ministers responsible for development cooperation; civil society leaders; and private sector leaders. Annex 1 contains the list of speakers.

The meeting demonstrated the growing political and financial commitment to improving nutrition. Speakers mentioned the following commitments to scaling up nutrition:

- Ensure that nutrition becomes a pivotal part in development plans and is the foundation of social economy and development;
- Focus attention globally on the record level of food crisis and malnutrition;
- Ensure that countries in the SUN Movement are accountable to those they seek to help;
- Ensure that all parts of the United Nations system are accountable for supporting the SUN countries in their effort;
- Increase investments for nutrition at global and national level;
- Increase the effectiveness, focus and accountability of official development assistance to improve nutrition;
- Private sector sharing learning of scientific knowledge, development, and capabilities to any public partner;
- Provide technical support to SUN countries working closely with government partners;
- Strengthen the tracking and reporting of global resource funds for nutrition;
- Support learning from the experience of SUN countries in launching multi-sectoral approaches to improve nutrition and encouraging dissemination of lessons learnt;
- Support the leadership mechanism for SUN to put SUN on a stronger footing.

Extended SUN Workshop

UNICEF House, Labouisse Hall and Danny Kaye Visitors Centre, from 9.00 – 17.00 hrs on September 20th 2011

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To present progress, and discuss challenges and future plans in selected SUN countries;
- To share information across countries and sectors to promote synergy;
- To strengthen linkages among stakeholders (SUN country governments, donors, civil society, private sector and others); and
- To agree on future steps to strengthen the SUN movement and the actions necessary to scale up nutrition in countries.

More than 150 people participated in the workshop representing: Government Ministries; Food and Nutrition Councils; donor agencies; non-governmental organizations and civil society; businesses; United Nations agencies; and others, including researchers and journalists. There were 18 presentations on scaling up nutrition in SUN countries. Annex 1 contains the list of presentations and speakers.

Discussion points covered a range of topics, identified achievements and challenges, and raised questions. A number of conclusions were drawn about the progress of SUN in countries and the way forward:

- **Scaling Up Nutrition:** Nutrition is being scaled up in an increasing number of countries and SUN countries are developing their own unique plans, strategies and mechanisms for implementation based on the specific context of their country.
- **Goals and Targets:** Many countries have set their own goals and targets. SUN countries are ready to consider adopting a global, quantifiable nutrition goal – possibly based on reduction in child stunting levels, reduction in maternal anaemia and/or improvements in birth weight.
- **Plans and Resources:** Plans for the reduction of under-nutrition (including policies, strategies, programmes and actions) are now in place in the majority of SUN countries. They focus on reducing under-nutrition through both increasing the coverage and effectiveness of specific nutrition interventions and the implementation of nutrition-sensitive development strategies. In many cases plans need more work to establish links between actions and expected results: financial resources and new in-country capabilities are necessary to ensure that plans are implemented. This calls for continuous analyses to identify funding gaps and make a clear case for additional resources, and for effective resource mobilization integrated with fund-raising for other priority initiatives (eg Womens' and Childrens' health).
- **Capacity:** The need for capability strengthening is being identified through stocktaking exercises that involve multiple stakeholders: in the majority of countries systematic capacity building is being requested within local and national Government, civil society, businesses, the media, and in the community of development partners.
- **Communication and Advocacy:** SUN countries are increasing their investments in communicating progress with and achievements of their efforts to improve nutrition. They see communication and advocacy as essential for transforming ways in which societies and their institutions, as well as Governments, perceive and prioritize nutrition. There have been several high profile and successful launches of the scale up nutrition and 1,000 Day movements at country level. SUN countries want to

do more to develop strong, coherent and harmonized messages and disseminate them in ways that encourages new behaviours.

- **Engaging Partners:** SUN countries are committed to developing their own inclusive and multi-stakeholder platforms as a support for the movement at national and local levels. They are widening their stakeholder groups and explicitly including these groups in nutrition plans, ensuring that there is space for the full range of sectors (agriculture, social protection, health and welfare) and of partners (donors, foundations, businesses, banks, scientific institutions and regional organizations). Building consensus around the need to be inclusive, and reflecting this consensus in practice, is central to the SUN Movement: countries seek help to establish the optimal engagement of civil society, business, scientists, development partners and UN system agencies within their national platforms and to utilize this engagement to ensure the best possible nutritional outcomes.
- **Mobilizing Investment:** Countries are starting to increase the level of national investments in better nutritional outcomes through establishing lines in national budgets and through encouraging increased levels of official development assistance for nutrition. Countries seek ways to ensure that nutrition is featured both within short-term humanitarian interventions in some countries and in longer term investments for nutritional security and resilience, especially among vulnerable groups in society. Many are establishing transformative partnerships that will result in substantially increased development assistance for improving nutrition on a large scale.
- **Measuring Results and Accountability:** With a view to ensuring accountability and improving management, countries are establishing systems to monitor progress and assess results over time. These cover three interlinked areas:
 - The **governance** of national efforts to scale up nutrition (monitoring policies, strategies and programmatic frameworks; establishing mechanisms for multi-sectoral programming and the involvement of multiple stakeholders)
 - The **funding** needed to implement national plans for scaling up nutrition (monitoring efforts to raise and harmonize the financial resources made available to countries; allocating funds based on set priorities)
 - The **implementation** of national actions to scale up nutrition by national authorities (monitoring efforts to set priorities, deliver of nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions and monitor results through outcome, output and process indicators)Countries are putting in place the necessary systems to monitor progress and to ensure the accountability of all stakeholders: they seek further investments to strengthen these capabilities.
- **Learning:** Sharing of experience between countries is increasing and will be critical to overcome challenges and maintain the momentum of the SUN Movement. Communication and sharing of experience between SUN countries has been initiated firstly through participation in global fora and through the recently formed interim Country Partner Reference Group (iCPRG). This is composed of country representatives from several SUN countries who have shared their experiences within a number of telecom meetings.

Annex 1: List of Speakers and Presentations

Speakers at the High Level Nutrition Event, 20th September 2011

- Mr Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations
- Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State, United States of America
- H.E Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the 66th United Nations General Assembly
- H.E Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania
- H.E Antonio Manuel Mascarenhas Gomes Monteiro, Former President of Cape Verde and Nutrition Advocate for West Africa
- H.E Dr. Baburam Bhattarai, Prime Minister of Nepal
- Mr. Eamon Gilmore, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland
- Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Secretary of State for International Development, United Kingdom
- Ms. Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, Canada
- Mr. Andris Piebalgs, Commissioner for Development, European Union
- Dr. Margaret Chan, Director General of the World Health Organization
- Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director General of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization
- Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director, the United Nations Children's Fund
- Ms. Josette Sheeran, Executive Director, UN World Food Programme
- Dr. David Nabarro, UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Food Security and Nutrition
- Ms. Tamar Manuelyan Atinc, Vice President - Human Development Network, World Bank
- Mr. Jeff Raikes, Chief Executive Officer, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Ms. Kathy Spahn, President and Chief Executive Officer, Helen Keller International
- Ms. Carolyn Miles, Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children
- Dr. Mehmood Khan, Chief Executive Officer, Global Nutrition Group, PepsiCo
- Mr. Stephan Tanda, Head of Nutrition, Royal DSM, Netherlands

Country Presentations at the Extended SUN Workshop, 21st September 2011

- *Bangladesh*: Dr. Ruhul Haque, Minister for Health and Family Welfare of Bangladesh
- *Burkina Faso*: Dr. Sylvester Tapsoba, Nutrition Director, Ministry of Health
- *Ethiopia*: Mr. Ferew Lemma, Senior Nutrition and Public Health Advisor, Ministry of Health
- *The Gambia*: Dr. Modou Cheyassin Phall, Executive Director of National Nutrition Agency
- *Ghana*: Dr. Frank Nyonator, Acting Director General, Ghana Health Service
- *Guatemala*: Dr. Carlos Cazali, Secretary of Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security
- *Lao PDR*: Dr. Bounfeng Phoummalaysith, Deputy Director General of the Cabinet, Ministry of Health
- *Malawi*: Dr. Mary Shawa, Secretary for Nutrition, HIV and AIDS, Office of the Prime Minister
- *Mali*: Mr. Boureima Toure, Secretary General,
- *Mauritania*: Dr. Abderrahmane Ould Jiddou, Director of Social Care and Nutrition, Ministry of Health
- *Mozambique*: Ms. Lourdes Fidalgo, Partner, Nutrition and Food Security Association
- *Nepal*: Dr. Sudha Sharma, Secretary of Ministry of Health and Population
- *Niger*: Dr. Guero Maimouna, Nutrition Director, Ministry of Health
- *Peru*: Mrs. Ariela Luna, Advisor, Ministry of Health
- *Senegal*: Dr. Mame Mbayame Gueye Dione, Chief of the Nutrition Division
- *Tanzania*: Mr. Godwin Ndossi, Director of the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Commission
- *Uganda*: Mrs. Christina Ondo, Minister of Health
- *Zimbabwe*: Mr. George Kembo, Director of the Food and Nutrition Council

Additional Speakers at the Extended SUN Workship 21st September 2011

- Ms. Jan O’Sullivan, Minister of State of Ireland
- Mr. Vincent O’Neill, Head of Development, Irish Aid
- Ms. Diane Jacovella, Vice President of Canadian International Development Agency
- Mr. David Hallam, Deputy Director, Head of UN and Commonwealth Department, UK Department for International Development
- Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director, the United Nations Children’s Fund
- Mr. Alexander Muller, Chair of the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition
- Dr. David Nabarro, UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Food Security and Nutrition
- Mr. Werner Schultink, Chief of Nutrition, United Nations Children’s Fund
- Mr. Pedro Medrano, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, World Food Programme
- Ms. Meera Shekar, Lead Health and Nutrition Specialist, World Bank
- Dr. Francesco Branca, Director of Nutrition, World Health Organisation
- Ms. Bibi Giyose, Food and Nutrition Advisor for New Partnership for Africa’s Development
- Mr. Howdy Bouis, Director of Harvest Plus
- Dr. Steve Collins, Chairman of Valid Nutrition
- Ms. Marti van Liere, Senior Manager Global Health Partnerships, Unilever
- Ms. Marie Konate, Chief Executive Officer, PKLSoja
- Mr. Marc van Ameringen, Chief Executive Officer, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
- Dr. Anna Lartey, University of Ghana