

**A Status Report on The Ghana Civil
Society Coalition for Scaling Nutrition
(GHACSSUN) and its role in scaling up of
national nutrition programs in the
context of the SUN Movement
(Dr. Frank McAvor)**

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outline

- Objectives of GHACSSUN
- Background
- Process
- Achievements
- Key challenges
- The Way Forward

Objectives of GHACSSUN in Supporting the Scaling up National Nutrition Programmes

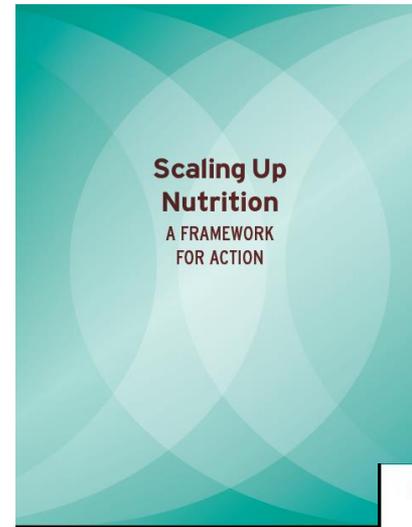
- Leading nutrition advocacy and policy dialogue, supporting the design and implementation of national multi-sectoral nutrition strategic plans, promoting multi-stakeholders coordination mechanisms
- building national capacities and monitoring various actors to ensure consistency and accountability in nutrition policies across Ghana.

Background

- In context of the SUN movement, GHACSSUN was formed to build on existing policies and programmes, increase stakeholder engagement and amplify the current political commitment in the Ghana.
- GHACSSUN is a national civil society coalition encompassing all relevant and interested CSOs, donors, non-state actors and state actors involved directly/indirectly in the fight against malnutrition.
- GHACSSUN believes peer capacity building will ensure consistency and accountability in nutrition policies in Ghana

Relevance of GHACSSUN in the SUN Movement

The role of GHACSSUN and Civil society is crucial in **advocating** and **sustaining political will for Government Action**, in monitoring and **Accountability** of both the public and private sectors, as well as in delivery nutrition services



Process

- Needs assessment of all CSOs involved in nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive actions .
- Creating strong links with donor community and other national alliances world wide and identify and document best practices and disseminate
- Identifying and document private sector partners
- Build capacity of the Coalition based on results of needs assessment
- Establish Monitoring and Evaluation mechanism

Process – Activities currently being undertaken by GHACSSUN

- Needs
 - Mapping of CSOs in Ghana
 - Resource mobilization
 - Developing unified advocacy framework
 - Efficient M & E System
- Actions
 - Organizing and bringing CSOs together on to CSO platform
 - Formation & strengthening of CSO governance structures
 - Develop a plan of action for identified needs
 - Mapping of CSOs in Ghana
 - Resource mobilization
 - Developing unified advocacy framework
 - Working Monitoring & Evaluation System developed



Status of GHACSSUN in the Process



CSO
Participation
in meeting
GHACSSUN in
February 2012

High level
meeting on
Governance
structure of
GHACSSUN in
Accra, Sept 2012

Meeting to
announce the
commencement of
Strengthening of
GHACSSUN Project
May 2013

Official Launch of
GHACSSUN in Aug
2013

Full
implementation of
the Multi-Donor
Trust Fund
sponsored Project
on course on .

Achievements

- Baseline Study of CSOs involved in nutrition in Ghana
 - Commenced in all 10 regions of Ghana
 - Mapping of CSOs in Ghana
 - In progress in the three Northern Regions and Greater Accra (4 Regions)
 - Continuing mobilization of CSOs
 - Resource mobilization
 - Planned local fund raising commenced
 - Arrangements for a Musical Concert to raise fund completed
 - Event Planner recruited to organise series of fund raising activities
 - Unified advocacy framework
 - Consultants commenced work GHACSSUN Advocacy Strategy Plan
 - Working with GHS to develop common advocacy strategy
- Reorganisations of Parliamentarians Against Hunger & Malnutrition
- Backstopping the Mobilization of Parliamentarians to join the Caucus. Number of members has increased from 12 to 28

3-year Plan of action for GHACSSUN

- GHACSSUN Strengthening Project supported by Multi-Donor Trust Fund initiated and programmed to run for 3 years
- Key strategic objectives
 - Establish an independent multi-sectoral CSO coalition
 - Raise the profile of nutrition as a development issue in Ghana through sustained advocacy program
 - Build the capacity of CSOs to be able to sustain Nutrition advocacy towards SUN in Ghana
 - Create forum for exchange of best practices among CSOs involved in Nutrition

Key contributions of GHACSSUN to Ghana SUN efforts

- Representation on the national & international SUN forum
- WFP has been nominated and accepted as GHACSSUN UN partner
- Contributed to National Nutrition policy drafting, validation and finalization
- Participation in the Cross-Sectoral Planning Group
 - Selection of a Nutrition Ambassadors

Nutrition Ambassadors

Abrantie Amakye Dede



Joyce Aryee



Key Challenges

- Funding from local sources is essential but a huge challenge
- Grassroots participation in nutrition action is a huge challenge but achievable target
- harmonization of Country players in an efforts to avoid duplication (REACH)

acknowledgements

