

Guidance Note

22nd SUN Movement Country Network Meeting (25-29 January 2016)

Thematic Discussion National nutrition targets and commitments to action

The global landscape for ending malnutrition is more conducive than ever, particularly among children under five years of age and women of reproductive age. In 2012, the World Health Assembly Resolution 65.6ⁱ endorsed a Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN)ⁱⁱ, which specified six global nutrition targets for 2025¹.

In 2014, Member States of the World Health Assembly approved a Global Monitoring Framework on MIYCNⁱⁱⁱ to track progress against these targets that led to the approval of the core set of indicators by World Health Assembly 2015^v. Additionally, the sixty-sixth session of the World Health Assembly in 2013 agreed to halt the rise in diabetes and obesity as part of the adoption of the comprehensive global monitoring framework and targets for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases^v.

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted 2030 Agenda and pledged to end malnutrition in all its forms. Our own SUN Movement Strategy for 2016-2020 proposes ways in which we can amplify the reach and impact of our individual efforts by aligning behind a set of collective objectives and targets.

At the global level, World Health Organisation and partners have built an [online tracking tool^{vi}](#) to help countries adapt the six global nutrition targets of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan on MIYCN to national contexts and monitor indicator progress. While this can help to explore scenarios, the establishment of national nutrition targets is a complex in-country process that requires taking into account current level, past trends and changes in demography and nutrition key determinants.

The establishment of national targets can help set into motion a comprehensive planning process that identifies concrete actions and resources to effectively translate commitments into results. The 2008^{vii} and 2013^{viii} Lancet Series on Nutrition as well as the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and its corresponding Framework for Action^{ix}, endorsed at the Second International Conference on Nutrition in 2014 and the 68th session of the World Health Assembly 2015^x, have made major contributions.

Commitments made at the 2013 *Nutrition for Growth* event are helping to identify actions that will contribute to the achievement of national nutrition goals. The 2016 *Nutrition for Growth* event will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in August during the Olympic games, and will be a key opportunity for SUN Countries to announce SMART² commitments to implement the Second International Conference on Nutrition declaration and meet their WHA nutrition targets. The Global Nutrition Report^{xi} team will be

WHA Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition Global Nutrition Targets

- 1. A 40% reduction of the global number of children under five who are stunted;*
- 2. A 50% reduction of anemia in women of reproductive age⁷*
- 3. A 30% reduction of low birth weight;*
- 4. No increase in childhood overweight;*
- 5. Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months up to at least 50%*
- 6. Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%*

¹ World Health Organization. Global targets 2025. To improve maternal, infant and young child nutrition (<http://www.who.int/nutrition/global-target-2025/en/>)

² SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable Relevant and Time-bound.

providing assistance to those countries that are developing new or revised SMART commitments. A SMART commitment guideline will also be available from 1 February 2016, and the Global Nutrition Report team will open a “hotline” starting 15 **January 2016** (learn more [here](#)). Ultimately, however, the identification and implementation of actions will be influenced by the realities unique to each country, especially by a thorough understanding of the country implementation capability.

In the coming months, a large number of SUN Countries will embark upon (or have already begun), the process of developing their next cycle of plans that will outline actions for improving nutrition. Many of these countries have asked for guidance to help ground the global level energy for nutrition in ambitious but achievable national level targets. Several countries have already set targets and begun implementation of their priority actions. For these reasons, the 22nd meeting of the SUN Country Network will focus its thematic discussion around country experiences in relation to setting national level nutrition targets and corresponding commitments to action to achieve these targets.

The teleconference will be structured as follows:

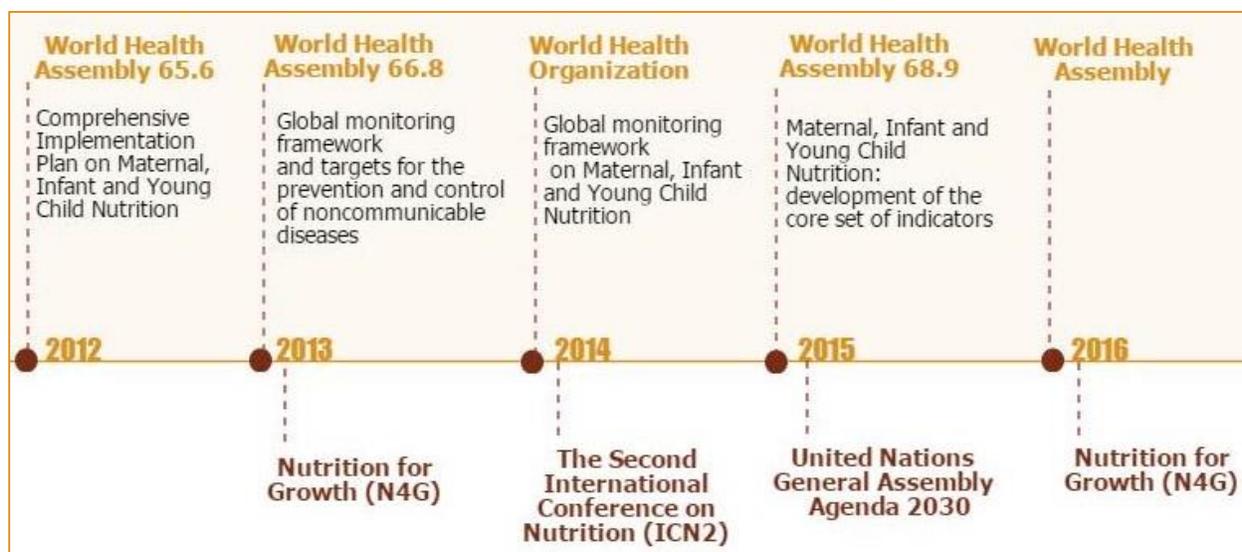
- A. Country presentation:** One country will present its experience setting national nutrition targets and commitments to actions, taking into consideration the six global nutrition targets of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan on MIYCN, and the nutrition-related targets of the WHA global monitoring framework for non-communicable diseases. This presentation will be guided by the following questions:
- What was the method of establishing national nutrition targets?
 - What kind of commitments to actions were triggered following the agreement on the national nutrition targets? (*E.g. examples may include commitments in terms of scale –x facilities by y with z; effective coverage of specific population groups – x children 6-9 months by y with z; funding allocated to definite programs – x amount by y for z; etc.*)
 - How do the targets and commitments link to the national planning and budget cycle for nutrition?

Countries interested in presenting their experience setting up targets, monitoring and reporting on them are welcome **to express your interest before 21st December**. Countries presenting are expected to prepare a brief presentation to share with participants a week before the series of teleconferences.

B. Questions and Answers

- C. Countries discussion on national nutrition targets and commitments to actions:** following the presentation, other countries participating in the call will have the opportunity to share their experience and views on one of the three questions suggested above.

Overview timeline of key nutrition relevant events:



REFERENCES

- ⁱ World Health Assembly Resolution 65.6. Agenda item 13.3. Maternal, infant and young child nutrition. (26 May 2012), available online: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA65/A65_R6-en.pdf
- ⁱⁱ World Health Organization WHO/NMH/NHD/14.1 “Comprehensive Implementation Plan on Maternal, Infant and young Child Nutrition” (2014). [Available online: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/113048/1/WHO_NMH_NHD_14.1_eng.pdf]
- ⁱⁱⁱ World Health Organization “Indicators for the Global Monitoring Framework on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition” (24 November 2014) [Available online: http://www.who.int/nutrition/topics/indicators_monitoringframework_miygn_background.pdf]
- ^{iv} World Health Assembly A68/9 “Maternal, infant and young child nutrition: development of the core set of indicators” (15 May 2015). [Available online: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA68/A68_9-en.pdf]
- ^v World Health Organization “Draft comprehensive global monitoring framework and targets for the prevention and control of noncommunicable diseases” (15 March 2013) [Available online: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA66/A66_8-en.pdf?ua=1]
- ^{vi} World Health Organization, Global targets tracking tool. [Available online here: https://extranet.who.int/sree/Reports?op=vs&path=%2FWHO_HQ_Reports/G16/PROD/EXT/Targets_MenuV3&VS_PARAM_varLanguage=E&VSPARAM_varISOCODE=ALB]
- ^{vii} See the series 2008 available online here: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/maternal-and-child-undernutrition>
- ^{viii} See the series 2013 available online here: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/maternal-and-child-nutrition>
- ^{ix} Second International Conference on Nutrition. Conference Outcome Document: Framework for Action. Rome, 19-21 November 2014. [Available online: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mm215e.pdf>]
- ^x World Health Assembly Resolution A68/8. Outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition. (24 April 2015). [Available online: http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA68/A68_8-en.pdf]
- ^{xi} International Food Policy Research Institute. 2015. Global Nutrition Report 2015: Actions and Accountability to Advance Nutrition and Sustainable Development. Washington, D.C.
- International Food Policy Research Institute. 2014. Global Nutrition Report 2014: Actions and Accountability to Accelerate the World’s Progress on Nutrition. Washington, D.C.