Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

There is no system in place to track nutrition allocations or expenditures for nutrition across sectors. The One Health Tool which was used in 2014 to cost the entire Essential Health Service Package revealed that nutrition appeared in 4 main programmes covering malnutrition treatment, dietetics labs and food control. To deepen the analysis, Botswana undertook the 3-step approach with key ministries it currently works towards further engaging.

Institutional Transformations in 2015 - 16

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

In 2015 two interim Ministry of Agriculture focal points were nominated to lead on all SUN Movement-related processes. During the reporting period, the focal points have focused, in particular, on identifying capacity gaps of technocrats and programming experts from the Ministries of Health, Local Government and Social Protection. Currently, they are exploring options of building a Multi-Stakeholder and Multi-Sectoral Platform for nutrition, which was raised as a theme at the first ever National Nutrition Conference held in Gaborone in November 2015.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The National Nutrition Strategy drafted by the Ministry of Health needs to be reviewed to ensure that it cuts across sectors. The draft Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy is yet to come into force. In Botswana, food fortification is not mandatory but salt iodisation is, and the Food Control Act builds a strong food safety system. Local industries and trade partners, however, do not comply with the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to integrate nutrition into the National Development Plan for 2016-20.

Aligning actions around a common results framework

No common results framework exists in Botswana as yet, but representatives from each sector have been tasked with offering their top management with any assistance needed to mainstream nutrition into their programmes. To facilitate this work, specific nutrition networks within sectors are being established to assess the levels of nutrition sensitivity of various programmes. Botswana, however, recognises that the understanding of nutrition linkages within sectors needs to be strengthened, which will also generate more buy-in from sectors.

2016-17 PRIORITIES

- Further engage the Ministries of Education and Water, in particular, to be followed by the Ministries of Trade and Environment
- Propose a host Ministry for the national nutrition coordination structure and the multi-sectoral nutrition team
- Identify focal points and a nutrition champion
- Better involve technical and financial partners in nutrition, including FAO, WHO and the EU