Democratic Republic of the Congo

Population: 81.34 million

Joined: May 2013

Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

**Bringing people together into a shared space for action**

The Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Platform National Coordination Framework (CNPMN), under the direction of the SUN Movement Executive Secretariat (SUN-DRC), is operational and meets quarterly. The provincial multi-sectoral nutrition coordination framework has, so far, only been established in two of the 26 provinces. Stakeholders have aligned their actions to the 2017-2018 operational action plan. Activity monitoring is difficult, due to a lack of funding.

**Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework**

The stocktaking and analysis of existing policies and laws is an ongoing multi-sectoral consultative process. Dialogue and advocacy to strengthen nutrition are regularly undertaken with technical and financial partners, as well as political leaders. There are no national communication and advocacy strategies to support nutrition in place. Much effort is still needed to ensure the enforcement of existing legal frameworks, such as the International Code on the Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes and laws on the protection of maternity and parental leave. Their application will require good governance practices.

**Aligning actions around common results**

In 2017, the operational action plan was developed, based on the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan. But this only includes nutrition-specific interventions. Harmonisation of the Common Results Framework and the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan 2016-2020 is ongoing. The national nutrition surveillance, food security and early warning system informs the Government about food emergencies in all provinces. However, multi-sectoral collaboration in the fight against malnutrition remains a challenge.

**Financing tracking and resource mobilisation**

A cost estimate for actions set out in the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan has been made by the Government, national stakeholders and United Nations agencies. The Government allocated a budget to SUN-DRC for 2015-2017 to execute activities in the SUN-RDC roadmap, but this funding was never disbursed. Advocacy is therefore being intensified to secure the disbursement of these Government funds and to optimise financing opportunities. Development partners need to collaborate further with the Government and align with the national plan to combat malnutrition.

**2018–2019 PRIORITIES**

- Mobilisation of funds for nutrition-sensitive interventions as part of the National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Nutrition Plan;
- Engagement of parliamentarians for legislative lobbying in support of nutrition;
- Development and implementation of multi-sectoral advocacy and communication strategies for nutrition.

*SCALINGUPNUTRITION.ORG/DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLIC-OF-THE-CONGO*