Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Strengthened, better-structured, multi-sectoral coordination in Kenya has been made possible by the signing and endorsement of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework. Seven counties have established Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) for nutrition and food security in 2017-18. Networks that have been set up include an Academia Network and a Government Network, which was reactivated and expanded over the past year. The Civil Society Network is strong, and although the Donor Network has been inactive during the reporting period, individual donors take part in SUN activities.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

All stakeholders have been included in policy and legislative development and review, including the 2012-17 National Nutrition Action Plan (NNAP), which was reviewed during the reporting period. A new iteration of this is currently being developed. A National School Meals and Nutrition Strategy has been launched. 2017-18 has proved to be an important year for the operationalisation of a range of policies and legislation, including the 2017 Breastfeeding Protection and Workplace Support Bill and the re-issuance of a Food and Nutrition Security Bill, currently being discussed in Parliament.

Aligning actions around common results

The NNAP served as Kenya’s Common Results Framework (CRF), and its review has raised important lessons – including the need to ensure regular reviews and monitoring for better implementation and results. The recently launched Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework also contains clear roles and responsibilities that are assigned to different sectors and stakeholders. Although tracking and reporting on nutrition-specific achievements is advanced, reporting on nutrition-sensitive actions needs improvement. Further mapping of gender gaps should also take place.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

A nutrition costing tool has been adapted for use in Kenya. In 2017-18, costing of CRFs has taken place at the sub-national level. Civil society has been instrumental in tracking and reporting financing for nutrition nationally and in some counties, but more awareness raising on costing and financial tracking tools is needed. The Kenyan Government has shown leadership in prioritising and building consensus on identifying funding gaps, but partners have not always been guided by identified needs, as resources invested are scarce or insufficient, both domestically and externally.

2018-2019 PRIORITIES

- Support the launch and rollout of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy Implementation Framework;
- Develop guidelines for key line ministries to assist their support for nutrition security with a multi-sectoral plan and a budget for lobbying;
- Hold a high-level advocacy event for nutrition;
- Identify nutrition champions and conduct training of these champions.