Pakistan

Population: 197.02 million

Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

A national SUN Secretariat is complemented by provincial SUN units and steering committees at the sub-national level. The UN launched the One UN Programme for 2018-2022 (OP-III) and the Civil Society Alliance (CSA) increased to 156 members. Joint high-level missions have been conducted in three provinces, resulting in action plans and allocation of resource to address stunting. An engagement plan for business partners has been developed for engagement activities through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The SUNAR network, which comprises academics and researchers, has developed a strategic plan.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The Pakistan Multi-Stakeholder Nutrition Strategy 2018-2025 has been launched and will guide nutrition actions across ministries and departments. Vitamin A guidelines, the Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Communication Strategy, IYCF in Emergency Guidelines and Pakistan Dietary Guidelines have also been approved. The Federal Government has analysed how it could improve the nutritional status of adolescent girls. The CSA has carried out a nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive policy gap analyse at national and provincial levels.

Aligning actions around common results

Multi-sectoral nutrition strategies at the national and sub-national levels serve as reference points for all stakeholders that are working together to scale up nutrition. Relevant sectors have developed their strategic plans and SUN networks are supporting and filling gaps. The OP-III 2018-2022 articulates the collective vision and response of the UN to national development priorities, in this case for nutrition. Monitoring and evaluation frameworks are being developed to track progress and support collective situation analysis.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Provincial nutrition plans are costed and mid-term evaluations will provide insight into funding gaps. Federal level financial tracking mainly covers allocation of funds. To engage provincial authorities training was provided on Public Finance for Nutrition (PF4N). Commitments from donors have been sustained and even increased in certain areas. Making best use of the funds is challenging, which may result in cancellation of previous grant commitments. Advocacy meetings have been conducted with policy-makers and parliamentarians at national and provincial levels to seek additional funding for nutrition.

2018–2019 PRIORITIES

• Establish a high-level forum led by the Government in order to improve inter-provincial and inter-ministerial coordination;
• Ensure a multi-sectoral information management system links ministries and provinces through the MEAL system;
• Establish a National Centre for Human Nutrition;
• Strengthen food regulatory authorities at the sub-national level;
• Conduct an awareness-raising campaign for nutrition behaviour change;
• Focus on Early Childhood Development and the first 1,000.