Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

The Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) comprises existing structures for policy, planning, programme formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, for example the National Nutrition Council Governing Board, Technical Committee and technical working groups. However, the terms of reference of the MSP need to be made more explicit, and contextualised within the SUN Movement. Following the 2017 Global Gathering, a SUN Core Group has been set up. SUN Civil Society and UN Networks have been created, but there is as of yet no Business nor Donor Networks.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Important gains towards ensuring an enabling policy and legal environment have been made during the reporting period, including the passing of taxation laws on sugary drinks, the advancement of bills on the first 1,000 days, and ensuring nutrition is a priority in national and local budgets. The review and enforcement of the PPAN—using the SUN checklist—and other policies and legislation has been carried out by civil society organisations. However the MSP is constrained by a lack of coordination vis-à-vis coherent policy and legislative inputs, their operationalization and enforcement.

Aligning actions around common results

The PPAN and the 2019-2022 Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition (RPAN) is to be launched between July and December 2018 across the Philippines. This, along with an addition to a draft Common Results Framework (CRF), serves as a common reference point for all sectors and stakeholders, to ensure scaling up of nutrition in the country. The CRF, however, is still to be finalised and requires enhancement. Deeper, better collaboration amongst different governmental agencies and stakeholders including business and civil society organisations (CSOs) is needed.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

Nutrition is a priority investment in the 2018-2019 national budget framework. Funding predictability for ongoing programmes and projects is ensured through 3-year forward estimates. Government agencies, are, however, required to show a high level of absorptive capacity for continuous funding. A system that consolidates, integrates and assesses nutrition-specific and -sensitive allocations and expenditures is needed. Development partners rely on country programmes for long-term funding, despite the Philippines being a middle-income country—leading to more technical than financial assistance.

2018–2019 PRIORITIES

- Create SUN Business and Donor Networks;
- Define the MSP plan and ensure it includes policy implementation;
- Develop a long-term resource mobilisation strategy;
- Strengthen collaboration with the Legislative Executive Development Advisory Council for maternity protection policy coherence and involve Congress in the SUN Movement;
- Finalise and enhance the PPAN CRF, ensuring it includes monitoring and evaluation;
- Ensure gender sensitivity, preparedness and response for disasters.