Institutional transformations in 2017-2018

Bringing people together into a shared space for action

Multi-Stakeholder Platforms (MSPs) exist at national and district levels. From 23 to 25 November 2017, a National Nutrition Fair was held, bringing together all stakeholder groups including local councils and traditional leaders. This highlighted the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration. An updated multi-sectoral nutrition overview was completed in October 2017 and will feed into a review of the National Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (NFNSIP). The UN Network for SUN/REACH supports stakeholder and action mapping, while the SUN Business Network gained additional members.

Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The NFNSIP 2018-2022 will be finalised in late 2018. Launched in October 2017, the Policy and Plan Overview is an effort to ascertain the extent to which the country’s legal, policy, strategy and planning frameworks reflect nutrition targets. Parliamentary awareness has been raised on nutrition issues, which has resulted in the signing of a declaration of commitment to food and nutrition security. Ahead of the elections, food and nutrition was included in manifestos of 14 political parties as priority for national development. Food-Based Dietary Guidelines have been finalised and the Food Safety Bill has been endorsed.

Aligning actions around common results

The revised NFNSIP will serve as the new Common Results Framework and clearly sets out the roles and responsibilities of each sector. The UN Development Assistance Framework is aligned to the NFNSIP, fitting with the Government’s ‘New Direction’ policies. A comprehensive list of core nutrition actions (CNAs) was agreed upon. The Vice-President recommends that an intra-ministerial committee should precede meetings of the Food and Nutrition Steering Committee. Annual nutrition action plans need to be mainstreamed at district level and implemented by involving District Planning Officers.

Financing tracking and resource mobilisation

The Government committed to increasing its overall financial allocation to nutrition and to also create budget lines for nutrition in other line ministries. Going forward, significant technical and financial resources will be required from the Government, donors and UN agencies: there should be effective coordination in this regard. The Government should identify clear priority areas and actions to tackle constraints and access opportunities. The annual budget tracking report for government expenditure on nutrition explored the extent to which commitments have been upheld.

2018–2019 PRIORITIES

- Finalise the National Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan (NFNSIP) 2018-2022;
- Support awareness-raising of nutrition issues for newly elected political leaders;
- Organise the annual National Nutrition Fair;
- Establish a SUN Parliamentary Network;
- Identify Nutrition Champions.

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[Infographic of nutritional statistics and targets]