

JOINT-ASSESSMENT BY THE NATIONAL MULTI-
STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM,
IN LINE WITH THE SUN MONITORING,
EVALUATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND LEARNING
(MEAL) SYSTEM

2018 REPORTING TEMPLATE



(APRIL 2017-APRIL 2018)

Republic of Tajikistan

About the 2018 Joint-Assessment

We invite you to provide us with the following details, to help the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) better understand how inputs into the 2018 Joint-Assessment were compiled by stakeholders, and, to what extent this process is deemed useful.

Participants

1. Did the following stakeholder groups provide specific inputs to the Joint-Assessment in writing or verbally?

Group	Yes (provide number)/No (= 0)
Government	Yes, 8
Civil society	Yes, 2
Donors	Yes, 6
United Nations	Yes, 4
Business	No, 0
Science and academia	No, 0
Other (please specify)	INGOs, Yes, 3

2. How many participated in the Joint-Assessment process? 18

Of these, please indicate how many participants were female and how many were male 9

Process

3. Was the Joint-Assessment data gathered and/or reviewed during a face-to-face meeting or via email?

Step	Format			
Collection	Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Review and validation	Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email X	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. If an information gathering or validation meeting took place, please attach a photo. No

Usefulness

5. If an information gathering or validation meeting took place, would you say that the meeting was deemed useful by participants, beyond the usual work of the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)?

Yes/No
Why?

Use of information by the SUN Movement

Please note that this template will be featured on the SUN Movement website, unless the SMS is otherwise notified. Analysed results of this Joint-Assessment will also form the basis of the 2018 SUN Movement Progress Report.

Scoring key

N/A	Not applicable	Progress marker not applicable to current context
0	Not started	Nothing in place
1	Started	Planning has begun
2	On-going	Planning completed and implementation initiated
3	Nearly completed	Implementation complete with gradual steps to processes becoming operational
4	Completed	Fully operational/targets are achieved/on-going with continued monitoring/validated/evidence provided



PROCESS 1: Bringing people together in the same space for action

Coordination mechanisms or platforms enable stakeholders to better work for improved nutrition outcomes. These platforms can serve to bring together a specific stakeholder, or they can be multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral platforms (MSP), with a broader membership, and may help to link stakeholder-specific platforms. Platforms can exist at both the national and sub-national level, with the two levels often being linked. MSPs are seen as operational when they enable the delivery of joint results, on issues relevant to nutrition. MSPs are also deemed functional they enable the mobilisation and engagement of relevant stakeholders, assist relevant national bodies in their decision-making, spur consensus around joint interests and recommendations, and foster dialogue, at the sub-national level.

Need some guidance? See the progress marker explanatory note.

Progress marker 1.1: Select/develop coordinating mechanisms at the country level

This progress marker looks at the presence of both stakeholder-specific and multi-stakeholder platforms or mechanisms, and how they are linked. The platforms that now focus on scaling up nutrition may have either been developed from existing mechanisms, or have created recently, and specifically, for this purpose.

FINAL SCORE -4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

A Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council (MSCC) for Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Global Movement established under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan (MoHSPP) has been active since 2014. It regularly meets on a quarterly basis; however, it meets for the SUN Country Network or thematic meetings. Majority of the ministries and agencies have established permanent working groups to support the MSCC with developing the national nutrition plan in 2018. UNICEF and USAID have been serving as donor co-conveners, however in 2017 GIZ has supported the establishment of the national Secretariat for SUN under the MSCC and dedicated a permanent staff to assist the MOHSPP with multi-sectoral coordination and communication. Nutrition focal points from WHO, FAO, WFP and UNICEF represent the UN Network.

Progress marker 1.2: Coordinate internally and expand membership/engage with other actors for broader influence

This progress marker looks the internal coordination, among members, achieved by the multi-stakeholder platform. It also looks at efforts to increase collective influence by engaging new actors and stakeholders, resulting in expanded membership. This can encompass sub-national platforms or actors, grassroot-focused organisations, or the executive branch of government, for example.

FINAL SCORE-4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

In 2018 the MSCC has expanded its membership to include the representatives of the Chamber of Industry and Trade, Committee for Religious Affairs, Tajik Communal Services Enterprise, Republican Health Lifestyle Promotion Center, international non-governmental organizations, local civil society organizations, and promotion of healthy lifestyle. The MSP senior management intends to include business and academia, when nominees are identified.

The Action Plan of the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council for 2018 has been developed through the facilitation of the national Secretariat and participation of all MSP members and helped to identify and prioritize actions necessary to push forward the nutrition agenda at the national level. Moreover, the national Secretariat of the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council facilitated the elaboration and signature of the joint action plan between the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSP) and the Television and Radio Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan which will ensure the promotion of nutrition-related issues through the national television and radio channels.

The Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council is coordinating the further elaboration of the Common Results Framework with the support of the MQSUN+ consortium. The MSCC intends to have a comprehensive national nutrition plan including the costing of nutrition-specific and nutrition sensitive-activities developed by the end of 2018 and have it approved by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan by mid-2019. The Technical Coordinator of the MSCC and the permanent working groups established under the ministries-members of the MSCC are involved in the process.

Progress marker 1.3: Engage within/contribute to the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)

This progress marker looks at whether the MSP fosters collaboration among stakeholders, at the national level, on issues most relevant to the nutrition agenda, in addition to commitment and follow-through. When relevant, interactions at the sub-national level should also be addressed.

FINAL SCORE-4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The involvement of the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council (MSCC) members and partners in its meetings is well established, however, it is important to upgrade this involvement into aspiration for achieving results for children. The MSCC with the support and active involvement of the development partners, organized the National Nutritional Forum II in July 2017. The Forum brought together local and international experts in the field of Nutrition from the ministries, research institutes, donors, UN agencies, NGOS, and civil society, including media to take stock of achievements, discuss challenges, find solutions and determine the way forward to eradicate malnutrition and stunting among children in Tajikistan. Everyone acknowledged that nutrition objectives can be achieved only through the multi-sectoral approach involving health, agriculture, food security and safety, education, economic development and water and sanitation. This Forum served as a platform for the Government and development partners to look back and rate the level of success and identify gaps in the joint actions towards eradicating malnutrition and its causes and outcomes. The Government called upon the participating agencies to unite efforts, knowledge and resources of everyone towards improving the nutrition of children everywhere, both at the national and sub-national levels. As a follow-up of this Forum the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population, regional authorities of Khatlon province and development partners convened the first Regional Nutrition Forum titled “First 1000 golden days – beginning of life” in Kurgan-Tyube, the

administrative center of Khatlon province. This Forum served as a platform for the key stakeholder to discuss the problems pertaining to malnutrition and draw the attention of the regional authorities to this problem which continuously poses a challenge to children's survival and development. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population as well as the development partners called upon the regional authorities and health administration to prioritize the issues of tackling malnutrition among children and anaemia among women of reproductive age to ensure sustainable human development and child survival. Another example of the engagement of MSCC partners is the development of joint action plan between the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population on behalf of the MSCC and the Committee for Television and Radio on joint actions to raise the awareness of the population on nutrition and SUN initiative through the TV and Radio programs. It has become a good practice that MSCC members take part in the TV and Radio programs-in 2017 two of the MSCC members took part in a TV program and discussed the healthy diets to improve child nutrition, raise awareness on SUN movement, using agriculture to diversify household diets.

In 2017, the Ministry of Justice hosted two awareness-raising seminars for the MSCC members facilitated by the MQSUN consultants on nutrition and SUN initiative, both seminars were highly appreciated. As a result, most of the ministries developed their plans for nutrition, feedback on the implementation of which is pending.

The UN network used the MSCC as a platform for the review and discussion of their surveys, studies and initiatives, an example of which are the two thematic meetings of the MSCC by the request of WFP on the "Fill the Nutrient Gap" analysis in 2018.

Progress marker 1.4: Track, report and reflect on own contributions and accomplishments

This progress marker looks whether the MSP tracks and reports on implementation of agreed actions, by individual actors and stakeholders, and their contribution to the MSP's collective progress towards agreed priorities. The MSP's ability to foster accountability is also considered.

FINAL SCORE -4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council develops annual work plans serving as guidance tools for the MSCC to align its action throughout the year. The Minutes of the MSCC meetings are documented in detail and serve as additional control tool for the national Secretariat of the MSCC to track the progress towards the objectives and tasks set in every passed meeting. The MSCC also serves as a forum for the Government and development partners to report on the activities and plans for the actual periods, bring the issues for the open discussion and seeking solutions. The national Secretariat in every quarterly meeting of the MSCC reports on what has been accomplished and where are the gaps. As an example, the National SUN Coordinator Dr. Saida Umarzoda and the MSCC Technical Coordinator Dr. Sherali Rahmatulloyev have repeatedly raised the immediate pressing issues related to the multi-sectoral coordination during the meetings, which helped to back up the Secretariat's efforts to initiate various actions with partner ministries, such as the establishment of permanent working groups for the CRF development under the partner ministries, pursue the Financial Tracking and accomplish the Joint Annual Assessment. The MSCC meetings have also increased the visibility of the SUN initiative and raised the profile of nutrition at the

national and sub-national levels. National SUN Coordinator and the MSCC Technical Coordinator take advantage of any opportunity to raise the visibility of the SUN initiative and nutrition at the national events.

FAO, WFP, Russian Institute for Improved Nutrition contribute towards the improved nutrition for children in selected pilot districts. WFP provides one-time hot food for 390 000 school children in 2000 schools.

GIZ, UNICEF, USAID, FAO support nutrition activities in their respective pilot zones. FAO has launched the program supporting the rural secondary schools with building greenhouses and using school land plots for the cultivation of vegetable to improve the availability of nutritious products at school canteens. RIISN is supporting the inter-district bakeries which will provide bread to the pilot schools providing food to children. RIISN is also renovating the school canteens, supplying equipment and training kitchen staff on the Book of healthy food recipes for schoolchildren using locally available products.

In the reporting period the MSCC has been supported by MQSUN+ consortium to develop a comprehensive national nutrition plan titled “Common Results Framework” and the multi-sectoral action plan with costing, a process that will take 18 months and last until the mid-2019. The MSCC Technical Coordinator has been providing his inputs and comments to the draft CRF, working closely with the local and international consultants supported by MQSUN+.

Progress marker 1.5: Sustain the political impact of the multi-stakeholder platform

This progress marker looks at the extent to which a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach to nutrition is accepted as a national priority and institutionalised by all stakeholders.

FINAL SCORE -3

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP) being the core government body dealing with child nutrition and mother and child health together with its development partners has been continuously advocating for inclusion of nutrition to the agenda at the highest political level. Food security and nutrition have been accepted as priority issues by the Government of Tajikistan in the National Development Strategy by 2030, Mid-Term Development Strategy for 2106-2020 and SDG 2. As a result, WHO supported the development of the guide-book on the integrated management of acute malnutrition, approved by the MoHSPP.

Specific focus on nutrition was placed upon the adoption of the Strategy on the Sustainable Development of School Feeding in 2017 until 2027 by the Government in 2017. It will greatly contribute to eradication of acute malnutrition among 390 000 school children in 2000 rural schools.

In 2018, Tajikistan hosted the international conference on Food Security and Nutrition, which was attended, among other international and local VIP guests, by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon and the Secretary General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres. In his address to the conference the President of the Republic of Tajikistan paid a special attention to the issue of child nutrition and reiterated the commitments of Tajikistan to ensure better nutrition for children and mothers. This fact raised the importance of nutrition on the highest political level. The MSCC Technical

Coordinator Dr. Sherali Rahmatulloyev took part in this conference and made a thematic speech on Nutrition and Health, giving an example of advocacy among high-level politicians and officials.

Key contribution of each stakeholder to Process 1

As of this year (2018), the Secretariats of the SUN Global Networks (UN, Donor, Business and Civil Society) will use the Joint-Assessment to examine their contributions, in a bid to reduce the reporting burden. If a stakeholder is not involved in the MSP, please write **not applicable** (N/A).

Stakeholders	Please provide examples
UN	- UNICEF as a donor co-convener contributes to the development of CRF, donor coordination, translation of SUN and MQSUN+ materials, organization of National Nutrition Fora; WHO supported the MoHSPP with the development of the Guide-book on the rules and requirements for the school feeding, while WFP supported the development of the School Feeding Strategy and FAO supports the use of school land plots for cultivation of vegetable for self-sustaining of schools with agricultural products.
Donor	- GIZ, support with the establishment of the National Secretariat for SUN under the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council and supporting the work of the MSCC; support in the organization of the MSCC quarterly meetings, seminars and general operations; USAID, support/funds the National Nutrition Fora; GAIN ensures remote support with the finalization of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on Fortification of Staple Foods. WHO, WFP, FAO, USAID support the participation of MSCC member officials from MoHSPP, MoF, MoES, MoJ and the Parliament in the international conferences and meetings, e.g. the FAO meeting in Budapest on “Sustainable system of nutrition to support healthy diets”, GAIN’s initiative to support the study to Georgia/US to learn on food fortification.
Business	- NA
CSO	- Two international NGOs (food and water and sanitation) and two local NGOs (advocacy and monitoring) have been invited to join the MSP, who actively integrated into the MSP;

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2017 to April 2018)

FOR PROCESS 1: Bringing people together in the same space (i.e. overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in-country)

In the reporting period the Multi-Sectoral Coordination Council for SUN Global Movement has strengthened its positions in leading the co-ordinated efforts towards the common goals. This resulted in the convening of the Second National Nutrition Forum, First Regional Nutrition Forum in Khatlon, establishment of the National Secretariat, adopting the MSCC Action Plan and the joint action plan with the Committee for Television and Radio on broadcasting nutrition-related programs, as well as formal establishment of permanent working groups under the partner ministries to support the development of the CRF and its action plan as well to join the joint monitoring of the CRF implementation in the future. MSCC has also been active in convening its quarterly meetings and took active part in quarterly SUN Network teleconferences, in which the MSCC Technical Coordinator openly shares opinions, reports on achievements and makes meaningful inputs to the discussion agenda. Tajikistan official delegation has attended the SUN Global Gathering in Abidjan and brought lots of inspiration and ideas, which were shared with the National SUN Coordinator to share those recommendations with the Government.

The MSCC organized the National Nutrition Forum II and the Regional Nutrition Forum I to bring nutrition practitioners, authorities and development partners to work towards eradicating malnutrition to ensure appropriate condition for child survival and development.

In addition, as stated above, the adoption of the Strategy for Sustainable Development of School Feeding until 2027, Strategy on Nutrition and Physical Activity are the outputs of the MSCC advocacy.



PROCESS 2: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

The existence of a coherent policy and legal framework should inform and guide how in-country stakeholders work together, for improved nutrition outcomes. Updated policies, strategies and legislations are fundamental to prevent conflict of interest among the wide range of actors involved in a complex societal topic such as nutrition. This process focuses on the enabling policy and legal environment.

Need some guidance? See the progress marker explanatory note.

Progress marker 2.1: Continuously analyse existing nutrition-relevant policies and legislation

This progress marker looks at the extent to which existing nutrition-relevant (specific and sensitive) policies and legislation are analysed using multi-sectoral consultative processes, with inputs from various stakeholders, and civil society in particular. It denotes the availability of stock-taking documents and continuous context analysis to inform and guide policy-making.

FINAL SCORE -3

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The existing regulations relevant to nutrition had been analyzed during the period of CRF development. The team of experts analyzed the existing laws and strategies. Tajikistan re-engaged MQSUN+ consortium to support the MSCC with the finalization of the Common Results Framework (CRF), its action plan and costing, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2018 and submitted to the Government for review and approval. This document will represent a comprehensive national nutritional plan with costing, which will serve as a framework document for nutritional-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions.

The National Nutrition Forums is a platform for analysis of all existing policies, strategies, relevant to nutrition on an annual basis. The Forum reports are submitted to the Government. In the frame of the multi-sectoral cooperation of the MoHSPP, of particular relevance to nutrition were, among others, the following policies, that were analysed:

- The program of reforms in agriculture in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2012-2020
- The program of ensuring food security in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2016-2030
- Concept of innovative development of agro-industrial complex for 2015-2019
- UNDAF for 2016-2020 establishing the multi-sectoral plan of support to the Republic of Tajikistan in nutrition.

Moreover, the MSCC serves as a forum for the development partners to present, review, discuss and further elaborate on the findings of the surveys and studies conducted on the topics relevant to nutrition. In the reporting period MSCC members took part in the review of the preliminary results and discussion of further steps for the “Fill in the micronutrient gap” analysis by WFP, “Micronutrient status of women and children in Tajikistan” survey by UNICEF, and WHO survey on “COSI”, “FeedCities” and “STEP”. These surveys provide evidence-base for the Ministry of Health and other Governmental structure who attended these meeting for informed decision-making, revision and/or adopting legislature and sector-specific regulations.

Progress marker 2.2: Continuously engage in advocacy to influence the development, updating and dissemination of relevant policy and legal frameworks

This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders work together and contribute, influence and advocate for the development of updated or new improved nutrition policy and legal frameworks for and their dissemination (i.e. advocacy and communication strategies in place to support the dissemination of relevant policies). It focuses on how countries ascertain policy and legal coherence across different ministries and try to broaden political support, by encouraging parliamentarian engagement.

It also focuses on the efforts of in-country stakeholders to influence decision-makers for legislation and evidence-based policies that empower women and girls through equity-based approaches.

FINAL SCORE -3

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Tajikistan is at the core of promoting the nutrition agenda on the highest political and legislative levels. During the reporting period the core officials of the MoHSPP that composes the core of the MSCC have been heavily engaged in the revision of the draft Law on the Fortification of Staple Foods which, when finalized within the Government structures, will be resubmitted to the Parliament for review.

Food security and nutrition has been included in the priorities of the National Development Strategy (NDS) by 2030 and Mid Term Development Strategy by 2020. The National Nutrition Forum II organized under the topic of “First 1000 golden days of life” highlighted the importance of appropriate nutrition for the healthy mental and physical development of children as well as shed light on the nutritional practices of women and the high rates of anaemia. ...

Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population is at the heart of the advocacy of exclusive breastfeeding and changing the dietary habits of women towards more nutritionally valuable diets. This advocacy is multi-channelled and multi-tiered, working at national and sub-national levels, using TV, Radio, newspapers and other means of communication.

The MSCC plans to develop an Informational Booklet on nutrition and SUN movement which will be than disseminated to potential partners for advocacy, awareness-raising and mobilising people and community for nutrition.

Progress marker 2.3: Develop or update coherent policies and legal frameworks through coordinated and harmonised in-country stakeholder efforts

This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders – the government (i.e. line ministries) and non-state partners – coordinate their inputs to ensure the development of coherent policy and legislative frameworks.

FINAL SCORE -3

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The Common Results Frameworks, which is under development together with its Action Plan and Costing, will take the account of a number of strategies such as the

- National Development Strategy 2016-2030,
- National Health Strategy 2010-2020;
- National Child and Adolescent Health Strategy 2010-2015;
- National Reproductive Health Strategy 2004-2014;
- Nutrition and Physical Activity Strategy 2015-2020;
- Social Protection Strategy, Concept of School Feeding 2015,
- Food Security Program up to 2020; the Law on Iodization of Salt

The development and revision of the draft Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on the Fortification of Staple Foods brought together the nutrition specialists from the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population, Parliament, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, most of whom are the MSCC members.

Progress marker 2.4: Operationalise/enforce legal framework

This progress marker looks at the availability of mechanisms to operationalise and enforce legislation, such as the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes, maternity protection and paternity and parental leave laws, food fortification legislation, they right to food, among others.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

In September 2017 the Government of Tajikistan approved the Strategy on the Improvement of School Feeding by 2027, a document developed by a multi-sectoral working group under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population and providing school feeding to 350 thousand children at 2000 schools throughout the country. This strategy, and all other strategies developed and approved by the Government had been developed in compliance with the Constitution and the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan “On the state forecasts, concepts, strategies and programs on the social and economic development of the Republic of Tajikistan” and the Concept of the development of school feeding in the Republic of Tajikistan. The legal frame framework determines the processes for implementation and reporting.

MSCC members and the multi-sectoral working group on the development of the draft Law on the Fortification of the Staple Foods review the comments to the Law provided by various ministries and governmental agencies and discuss the best cost-effective ways of implementation of the law on the

ground. However, the implementation of the law and adherence of the private and public businesses and food manufacturers requires a well-maintained monitoring and evaluation by the authorized agencies and wider public control and engagement of the civil society. An example of state-public control can be the monitoring and evaluation missions consisting of the multi-sectoral governmental team, UN and civil society who observe the implementation of the Strategy on the Improvement of School Feeding and provide reports to the government, UN and the public.

Progress marker 2.5: Track and report for learning and sustaining the policy and legislative impact

This progress marker looks at the extent to which existing policies and legislation have been reviewed and evaluated to document good practices, and the extent to which available lessons are shared by different constituencies within the multi-stakeholder platforms.

FINAL SCORE -4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP) as an authorised government entity for the SUN Movement, analysis the implementation of the nutrition priorities and supplies comprehensive activity reports to the Government on the annual basis. Currently, MoHSPP and partners are in the process of conducting a series of activities to formulate the “First 1000 golden days-window of opportunity” strategy. Improvement of nutrition is one of the main priorities of this strategy. Based on the analysis of bottlenecks identified and drawn recommendations, the MoHSPP will finalize the action plan for the reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health.

In late 2016, the MoHSPP conducted a national micronutrient status survey to assess the nutrition and micronutrient status of children and women, to determine risk factors for deficiencies, and compare the findings with the 2009 survey.

In 2017, MoHSPP together with its partners conducted the second Demographic Health Survey, with first DHS being conducted in 2012. This survey is expected to shed light on the nutrition and health of children, mothers, general population, thus having a larger number of indicators to look at in comparison with the 2016 Nutrition status survey.

Although the surveys are not meant to evaluate the existing interventions, they will certainly inform the future policy directions to improve nutritional status of children and women.

Key contributions of each stakeholder to Process 2

*As of this year (2018), the Secretariats of the SUN Global Networks (UN, Donor, Business and Civil Society) will use the Joint-Assessment to examine their contributions, in a bid to reduce the reporting burden. If a stakeholder is not involved in the MSP, please write **not applicable** (N/A).*

Stakeholders	Please provide examples
UN	- UN agencies played a leading role in developing a concept note for Food Security and Nutrition and were engaged in continuous advocacy for the placement of

	<p>nutrition as a national priority agenda (NDS and MTDS) at a number of high-level meetings. UN agencies also provided necessary technical assistance for strategy/action plan review and development. UNDAF for 2016-2020 provides guidance for multi-sectoral support to Tajikistan to improve nutrition.</p>
Donor	<p>- Development partners active in Food Security and Nutrition Development Coordination Committee (DCC) Working Group, such as WFP, USAID, UNICEF and GIZ were actively engaged in continuous advocacy for the placement of nutrition as a national development agenda (NDS and MTDS). The donors (USAID) supported the MoHSPP with the second Demographic Health Survey, WHO supported with COSI, FeedCities, Step surveys, WFP supported the “Fill the micronutrient gap” analysis, all providing valuable information on nutrition and health status of the population for informed decision making. MQSUN+ consortium funded by DFID globally provide assistance for desk review of the alignment of nutrition policies and plans as well as undernutrition program gap analysis. GAIN provided technical support to advocate for legislation on Staples foods fortification, while GIZ supported the establishment of the national Secretariat for SUN under the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population.</p>
Business	-
CSO	-

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2017 to April 2018) FOR PROCESS 2: Coherent policy and legal framework (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in-country)

Major achievements during the reporting period are the following:

- Increased policy-maker’s interest and commitment towards food fortification, including fortification of flour and salt iodization. The working group is mandated to review and amend the revised version of the law on the fortification of staple foods;
- Organization and/or participation at the three high level nutrition events with broad participation from multiple sectors-namely, the second National Nutrition Forum (July 2017), first Regional Nutrition Forum in Khatlon province (September 2017) and the Global SUN Gathering. All three events demonstrated the high-level commitments to position nutrition in the national development agenda and bring multi-sectoral stakeholders and development partners around it.

There is a need for the establishment of an efficient mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of implementation of laws at the sub-national level and reporting. There is need for the involvement of the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies to assume a leading role in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Agency for Standardization, Metrology and Trade Inspection (Tajik Standard) to monitor, assess and take necessary actions with regards to controlling adherence of the local manufacturers to the national standards.

The third National Nutrition Forum is planned for July-August 2018. This time the forum may change its format to international and invite guests from the Central Asian region. During the Forum the latest DHS II data will be released that would feed into the future policy discussion and direction to scale up nutrition.

Progress marker 3.1: Align existing actions around national nutrition targets/policies

This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholder groups take stock of what exists and align their own plans and programming for nutrition to reflect the national policies and priorities. It focuses on the alignment of actions across sectors and among relevant stakeholders that significantly contribute towards improved nutrition.



PROCESS 3: Aligning actions around common results

The alignment of actions across sectors that significantly contribute to improvements in nutrition demonstrates the extent to which multiple sectors and stakeholders are effectively working together, and the extent to which the policies and legislations are operationalised to ensure that everyone, women and children in particular, benefit from improved nutrition. This process delves into the operational side of policy and legal frameworks and how they translate into action. The term ‘Common Results Framework’ is used to describe a set of expected results agreed upon across different sectors of government and among key stakeholders, through a negotiated process. The existence of agreed common results would enable stakeholders to make their actions more nutrition driven through increased coordination or integration. In practice, a CRF may result in a set of documents that are recognised as a reference point for all sectors and stakeholders that work together for scaling up nutrition.

Need some guidance? See the progress marker explanatory note.

Please note: While progress marker 2.1 looks at the review of policies and legislation, progress marker 3.1 focuses on the review of programmes and implementation capacities.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The national nutrition targets have been identified, they match those of the WHA targets for nutrition, and were incorporated to the National Development Strategy 2030.

In 2017 the MoHSPP together with its partners drafted the Common Results Framework for nutrition, a unique strategy and plan document, first ever in Tajikistan, which will embody the national multi-sectoral plan for nutrition and tackles the gaps in ensuring better nutrition for children and women. The major activities and sectors have been identified, however, much more work has been remaining to be accomplished with regards to bring the CRF into the appropriate Government-approved format, development of the sector-specific action plan, development of the action plan costing. Namely, the CRF that will represent the comprehensive multi-sectoral plan of action for nutrition will contain:

- Integration of CRF targets into the sector plans and policies
- Developing multi-sectoral plan of action with sector-specific implementation plans (national/sub-national levels)

- Governance, accountability, management and coordination mechanisms
- Financing sources and mechanism, tracking and reporting on on-budget and off-budget funds for nutrition
- Monitoring and evaluation framework

In 2018, MQSUN+ consortium, supported by DFID, has re-engaged to help Tajikistan to finalize the CRF development process. For this, MQSUN+ has engaged one local and a few international consultants to keep up intensive communication and consultation with MSP and MoHSPP.

It is intended that in 2018 the MSCC will have its involvement with the Food Security Council under the Deputy Prime Minister to reinforce the focus on ensuring better nutrition to children as a priority action.

In 2018, the MSCC signed a joint action plan with the Committee for Television and Radio to highlight the nutrition-related topics through the central television and radio channels.

Progress marker 3.2: Translate policy and legal frameworks into an actionable Common Results Framework (CRF) for scaling up nutrition at the national and sub-national level

This progress marker looks at the extent to which in-country stakeholders agree on a Common Results Framework to effectively align interventions for improved nutrition. The CRF is recognised as the guidance for medium to long-term implementation of actions, with clearly identified nutrition targets. Ideally, the CRF should identify coordination mechanisms (and related capacity) and define the roles and responsibilities for each stakeholder. It should encompass an implementation matrix, an M&E Framework and costed interventions, including costs estimates for advocacy, coordination and M&E.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

MCH department of the MoHSPP develops its annual work plans, which also integrates components from the CRF for actions and follow up. MoHSPP supports WFP in undertaking COSI survey on an annual basis. MoHSPP takes part in the SUN Secretariat's events and initiatives. Despite the fact that CRF is not yet ready, its certain objectives have been integrated into the routine actions of the MoHSPP, such as the capacity building and training on nutrition, which is one of the most challenging and important components of the CRF.

The CRF Action Plan takes the account of all major interventions and activities necessary to achieve the national nutrition targets.

Progress marker 3.3: Organise and implement annual priorities as per the Common Results Framework

This progress marker looks at the sequencing and implementation of priority actions at the national and sub-national level. This requires, on the one hand, a clear understanding of gaps in terms of delivery capacity and, on the other hand, a willingness from in-country and global stakeholders to mobilise technical expertise to timely respond to the identified needs, in a coordinated manner.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The MSCC develops its annual work plans and identifies its priorities to achieve the overall goals. They all feed into the achievement of the coordinated efforts of all stakeholders towards the national nutrition targets.

As mentioned above, the CRF is yet under the development. This process, supported by MQSUN+, is expectedly will last until the mid-2019. In the meantime, the working groups established under the partner ministries and agencies of the Government will be involved in the review, discussion and implementation of the sectoral acting plan of CRF, thus preparing for the integration of the than-approved CRF action plan into their sectoral annual plans. The MSCC and the national Secretariat will be following up on the integration and implementation of the plans.

Progress marker 3.4: Jointly monitor priority actions as per the Common Results Framework

This progress marker looks at how information systems are used to monitor the implementation of priority actions for good nutrition. It looks at the availability of joint progress reports that can meaningfully inform and guide the refinement of interventions and contribute towards harmonised targeting and coordinated service delivery among in-country stakeholders.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The CRF has not yet been finalized and approved. The establishment of a monitoring and information system is one of the interventions committed to in the draft CRF. However, some of the actions included in the CRF are being implemented as a regular work process:

- Monitoring of implementation of the School Feeding Strategy jointly with WFP and other partners
- Monitoring of the School agriculture project implemented by FAO
- Monitoring of the Nutrition project implemented by GIZ, etc.

Establishment of a unique system of monitoring may be one of the recent priorities as the various projects have their own monitoring mechanisms with lots of similar features and but without connection to each other. This could be addressed through the establishment of a unique portal for monitoring and evaluation of projects, a task that requires further elaboration.

Progress marker 3.5: Evaluate the implementation of actions to understand, achieve and sustain nutrition impact

This progress marker looks at how results and success is being evaluated to inform implementation decision-making and building the evidence base for improved nutrition.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The MSCC involves the Republican Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Center, a special under-Ministry of Health structure, whose major role is the awareness raising and advocacy, to share their great volume of experience and educational and informational resources to complement the training and awareness-raising chapter of the CRF.

Monitoring mechanism is in place with different degree of intensity depending on the programmes. For example, within the health sector, quarterly reporting of the results of nutrition-specific interventions is established, but the mechanism is to track and report on the implementation results of nutrition-sensitive interventions is less clear. The donor-funded programs typically have a structured M&E framework, including baseline and end line population-based surveys. The variation is due to absence of common indicators for all different government ministries to report to the Government this will be addressed through the finalization of CRF and the framework will be adequate to incorporate the MEAL indicators.

The National Nutrition Forum II, which was organized in July 2017 has become a matter of good practice for annual knowledge-sharing and stock taking. It was dedicated to:

- Take stock of the progress achieved since 2016
- Review and validate the new evidence created (e.g. new national surveys, studies)
- Discuss policy/program implications of the new evidence
- Facilitate experience-sharing and cross-fertilization between sectors
- Launch the CRF and the multi-sectoral plan of action

The Chamber of Industry and Commerce throughout 2017 has been intensively working on the establishment of the Business network for SUN. The concept of the Strategy for the Business Network has been developed and shared with partners for comments. The Chamber of Industry and Commerce brought together public and private businesses ready to cooperate under the SUN initiative, but this requires further elaboration and coordination with the Government as it requires serious commitments and entails certain financial consequences.

Key contributions of each stakeholder to Process 3

*As of this year (2018), the Secretariats of the SUN Global Networks (UN, Donor, Business and Civil Society) will use the Joint-Assessment to examine their contributions, in a bid to reduce the reporting burden. If a stakeholder is not involved in the MSP, please write **not applicable** (N/A).*

Stakeholders	Please provide examples
UN	- UNICEF as SUN co-convener has been continuously assisting the MSCC with the coordination of technical assistance from MQSUN+ on further development and finalization of the CRF and the organization of associated work (including the organization of consultation and awareness-raising seminars) for the MSCC partners and working groups. WFP, FAO and WHO were also involved in the CRF consultation process.
Donor	- GIZ as a donor and supporter of the MSCC, provided technical support for the organization of the MSCC quarterly meetings, development of CRF, while WFP supported the thematic meetings of the MSCC, and engages in the CRF discussion processes. USAID as a donor co-convener has also taken part in the CRF development consultations.
Business	-

CSO

- OXFAM has been invited to participate in the CRF process and shared its IEC materials relevant to the water, hygiene and sanitation, which constitutes an important part of the CRF.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2017 to April 2018) FOR PROCESS 3: Common Results Framework for National Nutrition Plan (aligned programming)

(i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvements/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in-country)

The process of developing the Common Results Framework for nutrition and the multi-sectoral action plan with calculation of its costing has been accelerated since January 2018 thanks to MQSUN+ continuous commitment to support Tajikistan with the process that started in 2017. A team of local and international consultants has been had been intensively involved to facilitate the process through the face to face and online consultations with the key officials of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population as well as with the members of the permanent working groups established under the partner ministries in 2018 to support the process of developing the CRF action plan. While the MQSUN+ local consultant worked on the format and comments of the government on the CRF as well as on the chapters of the action plan and program of training on SUN and nutrition for the MSCC and working group members, the team of international experts worked on the development of knowledge assessment tools, monitoring and evaluation mechanism and indicators. This was followed by further sectoral consultations, outcomes of which will feed into the draft CRF action plan. The CRF is expected to be finalized by the end of 2018 and will be submitted to the Government of Tajikistan for review and comments at the beginning of 2019 to be approved and ready for implementation by June 2019.

When approved, the CRF and its action plan with costing will detail a multi-sectoral plan for nutrition outlining the strategy on:

- Integration of the agreed set of CRF targets into the sector plans and policies
- Developing the multi-sectoral action plan with sector-specific implementation plans for national and sub-national levels
- Governance, accountability, management and coordination mechanisms
- Financing sources and mechanisms, tracking and reporting on on-budget and off-budget spendings on nutrition
- Capacity development on nutrition
- Monitoring and evaluation framework

The action plan will have the costing of the different actions of the plan for different components (including training and capacity building), to highlight the financial commitments required over a specified timeframe, both for individual sectors and for the achievement of the overall goal and to assist in the definition of nutrition financing and tracking mechanism.



PROCESS 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilisation

Assessing the financial feasibility of national plans to implement actions for improved nutrition is essential to determine funding requirements. The latter is based on the capability to track planned and actual spending on nutrition across relevant government ministries and from external partners. The existence of plans, with clearly costed actions,

helps government authorities and key stakeholders (e.g. UN, donors, business, civil society) align and contribute resources to national priorities, estimate the required budget for implementation and identify financial gaps.

Need some guidance? See the progress marker explanatory note.

Progress marker 4.1: Cost and assess the financial feasibility of the CRF

This progress marker looks at the extent to which the government and all other in-country stakeholders provide inputs for the costing of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions across relevant sectors (costing exercises can be performed in various ways, including reviewing current spending or estimating unit costs).

FINAL SCORE -0

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

Currently, the CRF is under development. Once the CRF is finalized by the end of 2018 with a detailed multi-sectoral action plan, the cost of activities and interventions will be calculated. This will involve the costing of the plan and its different components to highlight the financial commitments required over a specific timeframe for all sectors to achieve the overall goal. In 2018, Tajikistan has accomplished the financial tracking of on-budget and off-budget expenditures for 2015, 2016 and 2017, inclusive of the funds spent by donors and development partners to nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive projects, which shows that Government holds the leading role in maintaining nutrition in the country. The role of the Ministry of Finance and the Agency for Statistics in identifying the baseline for funding and forecasting the expenses is key. Experts of both agencies are members of the MSCC and they have established good working relations with the national Secretariat and MSCC management.

Progress marker 4.2: Track and report on financing for nutrition

This progress marker looks at the extent to which the government and all other in-country stakeholders are able to track their allocations and expenditures (if available) for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions in relevant sectors and report on finance data, in a transparent manner, with other partners of the MSP, including the government.

FINAL SCORE -4

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

In 2018 Tajikistan participated in the annual exercise initiated by SUN Secretariat to track the financial resources for nutrition, using the “3 Steps Approach” and the financial outcomes of this exercise are available for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017. In 2018, for the first time, the MSCC inquired information on the financial expenditures of the donors and development partners to nutrition and nutrition-sensitive activities in Tajikistan. This exercise is both practical and useful for the inter-sectoral coordination and information sharing within the MSCC, however, this exercise will have to be institutionalized through its integration into the Government’s plan of actions and a specific authorized body to be identified to maintain the system and for reporting. The financial tracking showed that the Government expenditures

on nutrition and nutrition-sensitive activities increase over years, however, this does not come as a unique package of investment into nutrition but rather defragmented over sectors.

Progress marker 4.3: Scale up and align resources including addressing financial shortfalls

This progress marker looks at whether the government and other in-country stakeholders identify financial gaps and mobilise additional funds, through increased alignment and allocation of budgets, advocacy, and setting-up of specific mechanisms.

FINAL SCORE -1

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

As the Financial tracking shows, the on-budget expenditures to nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive spheres increase every year, yet these expenditures are quite defragmented and concerted actions with adequate funding is required to ensure every child receives adequate nutrition and healthcare.

Ministry of Finance (MoF) is authorized to coordinate the allocation of budgets for various sectors depending on their actual needs. They also coordinate the external support to the state budget, e.g. World Bank, EC, ADB, IMF or other donors. Close coordination and communication with the MoF and the Government will support the implementation of the CRF action plan, identifying sources of financial resources and scaling up resources where shortfalls are experienced. Once CRF and its costing is finalized and approved, the role of the MSCC increases not only in terms of coordinating and following up on the allocation of funding and monitoring of spending, but also on coordinating between the various sectors and the MoF. For example, the School Feeding project is funded by WFP/Russian Federation grant until 2020, after which the Government will fund the school feeding on its own cost. The process of budget planning to support the school feeding will start in 2019, but the available initial data will help the MoF to identify volume of available funds against the demand.

Progress marker 4.4: Turn pledges into disbursements

This progress marker looks at how governments and other in-country stakeholders turn pledges into disbursements. It includes the ability of donors to look at how their disbursements are timely and in line with the scheduled fiscal year.

FINAL SCORE -2

(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

The CRF is expected to provide entry points for various government sectors to align their plans with nutrition needs of the country's population and develop required set of regulations, projects and integrate those financial needs into their annual budgets. In the meantime, Government has a direct impact to improving the nutrition of children by adopting the School Feeding Strategy which contributes to improvement of feeding schoolchildren through the project run by WFP, or through cooperation with UN, World Bank, USAID, GIZ, other donors and development partners on nutrition-related projects. Moreover, Government supports nutrition through indirect efforts such as increasing the on-budget and off-budget investment over years to improvement of access to safe drinking water, hospital infrastructure, vaccination and health services, agriculture and improvement of trade and local production of food products. Priorities set in the National Development Strategy by 2030 match with those set in the SDGs

and the Global Agenda by 2030 which altogether contribute to eradication of poverty, improvement of agriculture, local production, healthcare, access to safe drinking water, directly linked with reaching the national and WHA targets on eradicating malnutrition, stunting and other risk factors for children’s development. The CRF is expected to unite state and, donors, businesses and civil society to join efforts towards ensuring better nutrition for children, better development and better future.

Progress marker 4.5: Ensure predictability of multi-year funding to sustain implementation results and nutrition impact

This progress marker looks at how the government and in-country stakeholders collectively ensure predictable and long-term funding for better results and impact. It looks at important changes such as the continuum between short-term humanitarian and long-term development funding, the establishment of flexible but predictable funding mechanisms and the sustainable addressing of funding gaps.

FINAL SCORE -2
(One score per progress marker)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE
(Refer to the progress marker explanatory note for specific examples or provide your own. Please share relevant documentation as evidence.)

As mentioned above, the Financial Tracking clearly showed the stable increase of on-budget allocations to nutrition and related sectors. It also shows the commitment of donors who have been continuously supporting the nutrition and relevant sectors in Tajikistan. It is expected that once approved, the CRF will provide a strategic direction and a solid regulatory ground for the increase of internal and external financial commitments to nutrition. And the leading role of the MSCC and MoHSPP in bringing not only people but also funds together for the better nutrition for children and women will increase over time.

Key contributions of each stakeholder to Process 4

*As of this year (2018), the Secretariats of the SUN Global Networks (UN, Donor, Business and Civil Society) will use the Joint-Assessment to examine their contributions, in a bid to reduce the reporting burden. If a stakeholder is not involved in the MSP, please write **not applicable** (N/A).*

Stakeholders	Please provide examples
UN	- UN agencies-members of MSCC have contributed to the Financial Tracking exercise, UN agencies have supported a number of surveys and studies, findings of which greatly support the informed decision making by the MoHSPP and other relevant government ministries.
Donor	- GIZ as a donor agency, supporting the national SUN Secretariat greatly supported the Financial tracking exercise, done in close collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population, Ministry of Agriculture, Agency for Social Protection of Population and other agencies. USAID provided information on the projects and funding for the financial tracking. GIZ, together with UNICEF is involved in the coordination of technical support by MQSUN+ for the development of the CRF and organization of awareness-raising sessions for the permanent working groups for CRF established under the partner ministries.
Business	-

CSO	- A number of international agencies and NGOs supplied information to the financial tracking and CRF.
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OVERALL SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED OVER THE PAST YEAR (April 2017 to April 2018) FOR PROCESS 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilisation (i.e. Overall achievements/positive changes/ key challenges and suggestions for improvement/ other relevant activities in the context of scaling up nutrition efforts in-country)

Tajikistan took part in the financial tracking process launched by the SUN Secretariat using the “3 Steps” approach. The information gathered was relevant for 2015, 2016 and 2017 financial years. In 2018, for the first time, the financial contributions of the development partners and donors was collected and integrated into the Financial tracking template. National SUN Secretariat served a key role in bringing the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Agriculture, Agency for Social Protection of Population and development partners together to contribute to the financial tracking. Thanks to the concerted efforts of the national SUN Secretariat and the Ministry of Finance that this time the budget expenditures on safe drinking water, vaccination, school feeding, food provision in hospitals, and sanitation and hygiene were integrated into the Financial tracking. Other aspects of funding, resource mobilization and financial tracking will be addressed upon approval of the CRF.

NEW OUTCOME MARKER: Review of progress in scaling up nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions over the past 12 months

In line with the SUN Movement MEAL system, this outcome marker looks at how processes put in place are effectively contributing to scaling up nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions. In compliance with principles of equity, equality and non-discrimination for all, participants are asked to reflect on their implementation progress, considering geographical reach and targeting of children, adolescent girls and women as well as delivery approaches that promote a convergence of interventions (e.g. same village, same household or same individual) or integration of nutrition interventions in sector programmes (e.g. nutrition education in farmer field schools or provision of fortified complementary foods for young children as part of food aid).

FINAL SCORE -3

(Scaling up nutrition-specific actions)

FINAL SCORE -3

(Scaling up nutrition-sensitive actions)

EXPLANATION OF THE FINAL SCORE

Progress in scaling up nutrition-specific interventions

Examples include the promotion of infant and young child feeding, micronutrient supplementation, management of acute malnutrition, food fortification and nutrition education. For each example, please specify the geographical reach, targeted population and delivery approach. (Reference: 2013 Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Nutrition and the 2016 UN Compendium of Action for Nutrition)

Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP) is coordinating the programs directly affecting the nutrition in the country. Some of them are multi-year programs and some are shorter-period programs, with a different scale of coverage. The MoHSPP is continuously supporting the:

- Project on Vitamin A supplementation for 6-59 months children throughout the country, implemented by UNICEF on an annual basis;
- Project “Improved nutrition for infants, children and mothers in rural Tajikistan” implemented by GIZ that focuses on the improvement of knowledge and skills on nutrition for schoolchildren, teachers, parents and communities, PHC workers that will last until mid-2019;
- Exclusive breastfeeding for children 0-6 months of age, and inclusive breastfeeding for 6-24months old children, integrated into the projects implemented by GIZ, WHO, UNICEF, IntraHealth;
- Distribution of sprinkles through PHCs provided UNICEF and USAID through IntraHealth;
- School Feeding Strategy and implementation of its action plan through the concerted effort of WFP (providing food to 390,000 children in 2000 schools) and Russian Institute for Sectoral Nutrition (renovation of school canteens, supply of kitchen equipment, training of school kitchen staff on preparation of nutritious foods based on the Book of recipes for schoolchildren) and establishment of inter-district bakeries;

All these projects and programs directly affect the nutritional status of children, however majority of them have common features posing challenge to nutrition:

- They are defragmented and vary in scale of coverage (do not cover the entire country)
- They are very much project-bound and depend on the requirements set by donors, this is why they do not have flexibility when implemented
- Projects and the implementing partners have their own priorities, goals and objectives;
- To improve nutrition throughout the country we need to develop complex, comprehensive, inclusive programs and projects on a larger scale and longer implementation and financing terms;

Progress in scaling up nutrition-sensitive interventions

Choose clear examples from relevant sectors that you are including in your review. For each example, please specify the geographical reach, targeted population and delivery approach. (Reference: 2013 Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Nutrition and the 2016 UN Compendium of Action for Nutrition)

Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population (MoHSPP) is coordinating the programs indirectly affecting the nutrition in the country. Some of them are multi-year programs and some are shorter-period programs, with a different scale of coverage. The MoHSPP is continuously supporting the:

- Distribution of Folic Acid to newly-wed and pregnant women through the PHCs
- Improvement of nutrition in the pilot schools of Khatlon province through regional program through building greenhouses at school land plots and training of schoolchildren and teacher on better agricultural practices and providing products to school canteens by FAO and Russian Social and Industrial Foodservice Institute. In all 20 pilot schools will get 22 greenhouses, serving as entry points for for teaching schoolchildren the basics of agricultural labor and where healthy and tasty vegetables and greens come from. The modern technologies used in the greenhouses will be distributed among local farmers and rural people, helping them to improve yields through the transition to innovative practices. Vegetables and greens grown in these greenhouses will be used for the preparation of fresh salads, which will be added to schoolchildren's basic hot meals to improve dietary diversity and nutritional value. Schools will be able to sell surpluses of grown products on the local market, and the money earned will be used to further improve school feeding.
- State programs on improvement of agriculture, cattle breeding, fish breeding, potato cultivation, improvement of access of population to safe drinking water, vaccination, improvement of regional trade, improvement of the population's access to health services, etc., representing multi-year complex programs
- WASH project by OXFAM covering schools and communities in Khatlon Province;
- Supply of PHCs in pilot districts of Khatlon with height gauges, salter scales and other appliances for measurement of child growth through the UNICEF and World Bank funded projects
- Supporting households in the districts of Khatlon province vulnerable to nutrition supply with in-kind support in the form of seeds and agricultural tools as well as training on better agricultural practices to improve household nutrition implemented by the World Bank

These projects certainly indirectly contribute to the eradication of nutrition-related problems, however, the same as above features can also be attributed to them. This is why, MoHSPP feels high demand on elaboration of a complex, coordinated, long-term, adequately funded multi-sectoral plan of action for nutrition. MoHSPP is acknowledges its leading role in the process of the development of CRF, however there is a growing understanding that there has to be more involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies in assuming shared responsibility for the sectors directly and indirectly contributing to nutrition as well as needs more technical expertise and support from SUN Global Movement and MQSUN+ in leading the coordinated multi-sectoral approach. For this, the country needs to develop a complex state program on nutrition, a strategy and action plan with costing and identification of priorities for funding to bring a feasible change in nutrition.

Annex 1: Identified priorities

Please describe the status of the priorities identified in your most recent Joint-Assessment (for instance 2016-2017)

Priorities identified in most recent JAA?	Has this priority been met?	What actions took place to ensure the priority could be met?	Did you receive external technical assistance to meet this priority?
<i>Enter priority</i>	<i>Yes or No</i>	<i>Please outline stakeholders' contributions (government, UN, CSOs, donors, etc.)</i>	<i>If yes, please explain</i>
1. Elaboration of the CRF into a detailed and costed multi-sectoral action plan	Yes (partially)	CRF draft has been elaborated, Financial Tracking done, cooperation with MQSUN+ well established	Yes, MQSUN+ has been providing technical support with the development of the CRF
2. National Nutrition Forum II	Yes	National Nutrition Forum II and a Regional Nutrition Forum I had been organized	Yes, Donors and development partners made financial and in-kind contributions
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

Please list key 2018-2019 priorities for the MSP

Consider what has been working well during the past year and what achievable targets can be identified and prioritised. Please also include network-specific priorities.

1. Finalization of the CRF, including its action plan and costing and integration into the sectoral plans
2. Organization of the National Nutrition Forums III-IV
3. Development and implementation of the “First 1000 golden days” Strategy
4. Setting up an effective operational M&E mechanism to support the MSP monitoring of CRF implementation
5. Closer collaboration with local, international and development partners as well as with the SUN Secretariat
6. Seeking global support for funding of nutrition activities under CRF

If you are seeking external support from the global Networks and/or external technical mechanisms, through the SUN Movement Secretariat, please provide relevant information

Will do after the approval of the CRF.

Annex 2: Emergency preparedness and response planning

<p>1. Within the reporting period (i.e. the past year), has the country faced and responded to a humanitarian situation? If yes, what was the duration and type(s) of emergency (e.g. natural and climate-related disasters, communal violence, armed conflict etc.)?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes, small scale flood affecting a specific small area Please explain:</p>
<p>2. Does the country have a national plan on emergency preparedness and response? If yes, does it include nutrition actions and indicators (both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive)?</p>	<p>Yes or No The Government has the Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defence, an authorized state agency to respond to the emergencies and coordinate the humanitarian aid. They have the relevant plan, however, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population also has a Department on Emergency Situations to coordinate the Ministry's emergency response. They mainly look into the provision of rescue, safe residence, water, medications and food or kitchens. Nutrition can be complemented by development partners. Please explain:</p>
<p>3. Is the MSP involved in discussions and planning for emergency preparedness and response? If yes, does the MSP engage with humanitarian partners, and how does the MSP contribute to linking development and humanitarian nutrition actions?</p>	<p>Yes or No No, not yet Please explain:</p>
<p>4. What are the key limitations faced at the country level in terms of linking development and humanitarian nutrition actions?</p>	<p>Capacity and resource limitations. Please explain:</p>

Annex 3: Ensuring gender equality and that women and girls are at the centre of all SUN Movement action

<p>1. Does the MSP engage with a governmental Ministry or Department that is responsible for women's affairs/gender equality? If yes, what is the name of this Ministry/Department? If not a part of the MSP, how do you engage with this Ministry/Department?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes, Committee for Women's and Family Affairs under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan Please explain:</p>
<p>2. Does the MSP engage with other non-state actors that are responsible for gender equality and the empowerment of women (such as UN Women or civil society organisations)? If yes, with whom do you engage?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes, all UN agencies place gender equality and gender balance issues at the core of their programming. UN Women is not yet a member of the MSP. Please explain:</p>

3.	How does the MSP ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as part of their work plan?	Please explain: Women and girls' health are at the core of the nutrition-sensitive policies and practices. These key factors are specifically highlighted in the National Development Strategy 2030
4.	What actions are identified and implemented by the MSP to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the community level?	Please explain: MSP member agencies, such as GIZ, UNICEF, USAID and others are implementing projects which support the women's empowerment, leadership, support to women's entrepreneurship and education
5.	Have you analysed or done a stock take of existing nutrition policies, legislation and regulations from a gender perspective?	Yes or No Not yet
6.	Does your country have a national gender equality and/or women's empowerment policy or strategy in place?	Yes or No Yes, the Order of the President of Tajikistan Please explain:
7.	Has advocacy been undertaken for gender-sensitive and pro-female policy-making and legislation on nutrition?	Yes or No Specific pro-female policy are incorporated into the laws and regulations, such as the Law on the Family, Law on the Eradication of Domestic Violence, etc. Please explain:

Annex 4: Advocacy and communication for nutrition

1.	Do you engage with the media to amplify key messages, create awareness and demand for action on nutrition?	Yes or No Yes, in 2018 MSP/MoHSPP has developed a joint action plan with the Committee for Television and Radio under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on awareness raising and informing the doctors and the general population of the importance of nutrition for children, girls and mothers. If yes, please provide specific examples of how you have engaged the media, which stakeholders were involved in supporting the engagement and what the results have been. Please share relevant material such as communications / media engagement plans, advocacy material shared with the media, press releases, newspaper articles, video clips etc. Examples: In June 2018, MSP plans to have the first TV and Radio programs on Nutrition and adverse effects of magnetron on children and anaemia on reproductive-age women.
2.	Are parliamentarians actively contributing to improve nutrition, in collaboration with the MSP? <i>Examples could include the existence of an active Parliamentary network or group focusing on food security and nutrition, votes in support of legal</i>	Yes or No Yes If yes, please provide specific examples of how parliamentarians have engaged, which stakeholders that supported their engagement and what the results have been. Please share relevant material such as ToRs or action plans for Parliamentary networks or groups, budget tracking reports, reports from nutrition debates in parliament, speeches, press releases, newspaper articles, video clips etc.

<p><i>or budget changes that the MSP suggested, debates in parliament on nutrition or other concrete actions taken by parliamentarians in support of improved nutrition.</i></p>	<p>Parliamentarians, MoHSPP, MoJ, among others are the members of the working group on the development of the draft law on the fortification of staple foods, to be submitted to the Parliament for review in July-August 2018. The working group is supported by GAIN. This law will come in place of the failed law on flour fortification, denied by the Parliament to include all staple foods for fortification.</p> <p>Examples:</p>
<p>3. Is there one or several nominated Nutrition Champions (including for example high-level political leaders, celebrities, journalists, religious leaders etc.) actively engaging to promote nutrition at national and/or local level?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes, two If yes, please provide specific examples of who the champions are, how they have been engaging, which stakeholders that supported their engagement, and what the results have been. Please also share relevant material such as Nutrition Champion engagement plans, speeches, press releases, newspaper articles, video clips and other material etc.</p> <p>Examples: Head of the MCH and Family Planning Directorate of the MoHSPP and the Deputy Chairman of the Parliament are the two Nutrition Champions pushing the Nutrition agenda forward.</p>
<p>4. Have you documented advocacy successes and best practice in reducing malnutrition through multi-sector and multi-stakeholder action, and shared them nationally and/or with regional and global partners?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes If yes, please provide specific examples of the successes and best practices you have documented, the stakeholders involved in documenting them, as well as how you have communicated them. Please share relevant material such as case studies or reports of advocacy successes and/or best practice etc.</p> <p>Examples: The latest National Survey on Micronutrient Status and the Demographic Health Survey provide evidence of improvement of nutrition, decrease in malnutrition and stunting among children and increase in exclusive breastfeeding.</p>
<p>5. Do you plan on organising a high-level event on nutrition in the upcoming period?</p>	<p>Yes or No Yes If yes, please provide details about the objectives and expected outcomes of the event, key stakeholders you plan to involve as well as the estimated date and location.</p> <p>Details: National Nutrition Form III, July-August 2018.</p>

Annex 5: Participants at the 2018 Joint-Assessment of the national multi-stakeholder platform

No.	Title (Ms./Mr.)	Name	Organisation	Specific SUN role (if applicable)	Email	Phone	Should contact be included in the SUN mailing list?

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20.		Sherali Ahmadzoda	Tajik Communal Services Enterprise	MSCC member	guphmk@mail.ru		
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