



# Contributions by the SUN Movement Secretariat to a World Free from all Forms of Malnutrition

Annual Narrative Report  
1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018

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## About the Secretariat

Launched in September 2010, the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement catalyses collective action towards ending malnutrition in all its forms. Led by 60 SUN Countries and four Indian States, the SUN Movement is an unprecedented effort to bring together stakeholders consisting of governments, national and international civil society organisations, businesses, the UN system, researchers and scientists from different sectors. Through this multi-stakeholder interaction, the SUN Movement aims to create an enabling environment to convene, mobilise, share, learn, advocate, align and coordinate actions and approaches to improve nutrition.

SUN countries, and all stakeholders in the Movement are committed to scaling up nutrition, by strengthening four strategic objectives at country-level as set out in the [SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap 2016-2020](#):

1. *Expanding and sustaining an enabling political environment;*
2. *Prioritising effective actions that contribute to good nutrition;*
3. *Implementing actions aligned with national common results frameworks;*
4. *Effectively using, and significantly increasing, financial resources for nutrition.*

The SUN Movement's Global Support System is comprised of the Secretariat of the SUN Movement, four Networks (Donor, United Nations, Civil Society and Business) as well as experts that offer technical support and leadership in nutrition. This Support System responds and adapts to SUN Countries' needs, requests for expertise and fulfilment of ambitions. This often occurs (but not exclusively) through the use of SUN Movement Communities of Practice which are organized using thematic focus points most relevant to SUN Countries. The SUN Movement Global Support System also leverages its members' experiences and their areas of comparative advantage. Through increasing coordination, aligning resources and fostering greater collaboration for improved nutrition, the support system is fostering a more coherent nutrition agenda both at country level and globally. At the country level, members of the SUN Networks support their respective national governments by participating in multi-stakeholder platforms and aligning their activities behind national objectives through common results frameworks.

The coordinating mechanism of the SUN Movement Global Support System is the SUN Secretariat, hereinafter referred to as the Secretariat. It was established in 2012 as a small coordinating mechanism to support SUN countries, helping them connect with each other for support and advice, and ensuring coordinated and coherent support from actors in a series of networks. The Secretariat also maintains momentum across the SUN Movement, catalysing interest and action in new or problematic nutrition issues. Finally, the Secretariat tracks and communicates the progress made by each SUN country and across the Movement. The Secretariat is led by a Coordinator (United Nations Assistant Secretary General) and operates under the strategic guidance of the SUN Movement Lead Group. An Executive Committee established in 2015 acts on behalf of the Lead Group to support and oversee the development and implementation of the Movement's Strategy and the contribution of the SUN Movement's global support system.

## About this Report

This Annual Narrative Report covers the period 1 January – 31 December 2018 and is based on the Secretariat's Multi-Year Activity Framework for 2016-2020 (Annex I). It is complemented by an Annual Financial Report for the same period (attached to this report). Annual Narrative and Financial Reports of the Secretariat for previous years (2011-2017) as well Foundation documents of the Secretariat can be found on the SUN Movement website ([here](#)).

Guided by the four strategic objectives set out in the Strategy and Roadmap for 2016-2020, the Secretariat organises its work in a way where it can add most value to the Movement. The Secretariat has acknowledged in its multi-year activity framework 2016-2020 that achieving the Movement's strategic objectives requires stronger mutual accountability across the Movement to deliver on commitments, aligned actions and working transparently and responsibly together. The realization of the SUN Movement's strategic objectives requires

the strengthening of SUN Countries' capabilities in key areas as well as ensuring effective country-to-country learning, timely and appropriate technical cooperation and tailored support for all SUN countries.

Recognising these pre-requisites for the success of the SUN Movement, the Secretariat focuses its work in three Primary Outcome Areas described below.

1. *Improved accountability by all SUN Stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in the SUN Strategy & Roadmap;*
2. *Increased implementation and monitoring of multi-sectoral nutrition plans by coordinated stakeholders in all SUN Countries;*
3. *Established systems for timely and appropriate peer-to-peer exchange and technical cooperation for all SUN countries.*

The detailed ambitions relating to each of these Primary Outcomes are described in the Intermediate Outcomes of the Secretariat's Multi-Year Activity Framework for 2016-2020 (Annex I). Commencing in 2016, all reports of the Secretariat monitor outputs contributing to these Primary and Intermediary Outcomes.

## Executive Summary

During 2018, the SUN Movement supported by the Secretariat in Geneva, built on its governance and accountability reforms of 2017 to strengthen momentum towards a world free of malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. In particular, the Secretariat focused on harnessing the full potential of the Movement through leveraging political, knowledge management and financial capacities to advance SUN Movement country priorities. Work at all levels was informed by and designed to support, country-level needs. The year was characterised by advancement in four priority areas:

- Country-led progress
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)
- Strengthening connections and communications across the Movement for greater impact
- Global Governance and Leadership

The above priorities were successfully delivered against a backdrop of severe human resource constraints and disruption in the Secretariat. Further detail can be found in the narrative supporting each Primary Outcome Area in the section of this report "Outcomes of the Secretariat's Multi-Year Framework".

### Country-Led Progress

The number one priority in 2018 was to respond effectively and rapidly to country needs. This commitment was driven from the very senior level, with the SUN Movement Coordinator conducting twelve country visits throughout the year to Vietnam, Zambia, the Gambia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Chad, Ethiopia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, Guinea and Niger. As underscored in the 2018 SUN Movement Mid Term Review, the SUN Movement Coordinator's visits had a significant political impact and generated momentum at country level among the members of the Multi-Stakeholder Platforms.

The Secretariat further capitalised on this momentum, by investing in the capacity of the SUN Country Focal Points and the functioning of Multi-Stakeholder Platforms at country level. This included targeted training, such as a capacity development workshop in Bangkok, with the aim of empowering SUN Focal Points to lead change in their countries; and a webinar (held in English, French and Spanish) for SUN Focal Points to improve SUN countries' access to funds from the Global Financing Facility. The Secretariat also held the first ever SUN Nutrition Champions training at the EAT Stockholm Food Forum in June uniting multi-sectoral leaders from 12 countries. These events will be extended in 2019 to include more focal points and other issues. The Secretariat advanced its work on gender and women's socio-economic empowerment; food systems; nutrition in situations of fragility (the humanitarian-development nexus); and leveraging finance for nutrition with a view to supporting countries in designing and implementing policy approaches to challenges these areas in 2019.

In 2018, the Secretariat together with the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) launched 2 cycles for funding under Window I of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund. The focus was on strengthened participation by in-country non-state actors in national multi-stakeholder platforms to implement scale up nutrition plans. In the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle, 21 projects were funded and continue to be implemented by national Civil Society Alliances.

The SUN Movement Annual Progress Report for 2018 was our most ambitious report to date, showcasing individual country and collective progress, and providing targeted analysis at the regional level. For the first time, the report was availed in an interactive online version.

SUN Countries are “voting with their feet” to engage with the Movement. 2018 saw the highest ever number of Joint Annual Assessments, a mechanism through which countries could assess and highlight their progress. Out of 60 countries upon who the assessments were conducted 53 responded - representing 88% of SUN Membership. Additionally, the Secretariat further advanced work to support country capacity on planning and implementation, making use of strategies and tools developed in 2016 and 2017. As a result, 15 new national action plans were reviewed using the commonly agreed SUN Movement Checklist for Quality Plans; with 50 countries using their analysis for advocacy and planning purposes. In addition, a group of organizations have come together with the Secretariat under the catalytic initiative on Knowledge Implementation and Impact (KI3). The Secretariat is also collaborating with the EU-led initiative on National Information Platforms on Nutrition (NIPN) to develop and test the use of subnational dashboards for better decision making in ten countries. Lessons learned from these workstreams are being harnessed by the Secretariat to strengthen knowledge within the SUN Movement on multi-sectoral planning and implementation.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)**

The investment undertaken in SUN Movement data and learning since 2016 began to bear fruit in 2018. As noted above, a record number of countries undertook Joint Annual Assessments. In addition, the Secretariat organised three in-depth reviews of El Salvador; Madagascar and Benin, yielding important information about how stakeholders operate at national and sub-national levels and generating a better understanding of stakeholders’ expectations of the SUN Movement Support System. The Secretariat launched a research programme into the design of multi-stakeholder platforms, in collaboration with the Institute for Development Studies and Nutrition International. This programme produced a series of country briefs that provided useful input to the October 2018 SUN Network retreat. A toolkit and training course are being designed and will be delivered in the second quarter of 2019. These studies have created a more comprehensive picture of progress better highlighting challenges across the Movement, whilst facilitating a better-informed response by the SUN Movement Support system in terms of reporting, learning and policy advice.

Following numerous months of data collection and database development, the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) System became operational in 2018. The MEAL system shows how multiple stakeholders from different sectors come together, change their behaviours, mobilize resources and align implementation efforts to achieve results. This ultimately leads to the improvement of nutrition status and the realization of key sustainable development goals through better nutrition. As noted in the Mid-Term Review, the MEAL system is proving to be useful as a tool for consolidated, comparable country data at the global level, with excellent country dashboards. The MEAL system country dashboards have had significant impact informing thematic briefs, advocacy work, and implementation support. The initial rendition of the MEAL system has been around monitoring and evaluation. The next step is envisaged to move beyond monitoring and evaluation to include a stronger accountability and learning focus.

On Monitoring and Evaluation, a webinar was conducted in April 2018, with all SUN countries to answer questions on the Joint Annual Assessment exercise which feeds data into the MEAL system and to introduce the MEAL Country Dashboards. A mapping of MEAL data was conducted for twenty countries, and ten sub-national Dashboards were developed. This work informed the ongoing collaboration with the EU-funded initiative on the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) in ten SUN countries (see below). In 2018, the Secretariat also used the important information gathered on behavioural change, functioning of multi-stakeholder

platforms, and implementation challenges (at national and sub-national levels), to inform constructive discussions of the Lead Group and Executive Committee on how to take the Movement beyond 2020.

On Learning, the Secretariat launched a capacity building programme for SUN Country Focal Points, in collaboration with IFPRI, Nutrition International, MQSUN+, DFID who provided financial support. As noted above, the first retreat took place in Bangkok in November 2018. Funding, partners and a timeline are still to be secured for the next two retreats to take place in 2019. The Secretariat also held the first ever SUN Nutrition Champions training at the EAT Stockholm Food Forum in June uniting leaders from 12 countries.

### **Strengthening connections and communications across the Movement for greater impact**

Collaboration with the SUN Movement Networks intensified in 2018, resulting in stronger connections between and across the Networks. This was evident in the planning of the SUN Movement Coordinator's country visits, in the roll-out of the MEAL system, and when jointly organising events such as the SUN Nutrition Hub during the 2018 World Health Assembly (WHA). Two SUN Network retreats were organised in March and October 2018 that brought together all the key actors from the 4 SUN Networks and the Secretariat. Both retreats were considered a success by participants, with the second retreat producing a detailed Collaboration Framework 2019-2020 which was subsequently submitted to the SUN Movement's Executive Committee at their January 2019 retreat.

The Secretariat increased its strategic engagement in key intergovernmental and political fora on behalf of the Movement. This included the World Health Assembly (May 2018), High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (July 2018), United Nations General Assembly (September 2018) and its Second Committee, and Committee on World Food Security (October 2018). The Secretariat organised a programme of events in the margins of the World Health Assembly to welcome delegations from member countries and raise visibility of their challenges and progress with a global audience. At the United Nations General Assembly, the Secretariat partnered with EAT, the SDG2 Advocacy Hub, the SUN Business Network and World Vision on multiple events and arranged for the SUN Coordinator to be a presenter during the High-Level Meeting on NCDs. The Secretariat also helped to organize official side events with key partners at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Summit in October and three side events at the IFPRI-FAO Conference in Bangkok, including the official launch of the 2018 SUN Progress Report in November. An official side event was arranged at the Ibero-American Summit with the Government of Guatemala during the Coordinators high level visits to Latin-American member countries.

The SUN Movement website, newsletter and social media channels continued to generate increased traffic and usage amongst in-country stakeholders with a number of successful social media campaigns during International Women's Day, World Breastfeeding Week and in support of the Coordinator's country visits. Increasingly, individual blogs were authored by SUN Country representatives and content focusing on implementation at scale was promoted throughout the website focusing on selected country case studies. Key reports and materials such as the 2018 Global Nutrition Report and the State of the World's Food and Nutrition Report were disseminated to all members of the Movement.

The Secretariat also organised a briefing for Permanent Representatives in Geneva with a briefing in Rome to take place in February 2019. The event updated Ambassadors on the Movement and its objectives and encouraged them to use their membership of the governing bodies of other international organisations to ensure nutrition is fully addressed in their programmes and strategies.

### **Global Governance and Leadership**

2018 saw several changes within the membership of the SUN Movement global governance system. The Secretariat supported the onboarding of a new Chair of the SUN Movement Lead Group and organised a successful meeting of the Lead Group in the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Outcomes of this meeting included members re-committing to the Movement and calling for a stronger focus to support SUN member Countries. Recommendations included the need to preserve the Movement's focus on the first 1000 days, with additional emphasis on adolescence and inclusion of youth; more work to leverage the Movement's strong private sector and civil society engagement; and the need to focus on food, health and

social protection systems. These were backed by personal commitments from Lead Group members to champion the Movement in their personal capacity and through the organisations they lead. The Secretariat disseminated these recommendations and moved quickly to implement a country-focused approach (for example, pushing for a country convergence plan for the Networks). The Secretariat helped to secure the active engagement of over 75% of the SUN Lead Group, planning their engagement in key moments throughout the year and also supported the Coordinator and Lead Group Chair in a renewal of a third of Lead Group members.

The Secretariat supported the Executive Committee throughout 2018, to enable its members to fulfil their responsibilities to oversee implementation of the Movement's strategy and guide the SUN Movement Coordinator. The Secretariat ensured members were regularly informed about developments across the SUN Movement. The Secretariat also facilitated a 2-day retreat; several teleconferences of the Executive Committee throughout the year; and regular and frequent exchanges between the Executive Committee and the SUN Movement Support System. Several Executive Committee Task Forces and Working Groups were established to provide guidance on specific working areas, with the Secretariat providing guidance as needed. Members of the Movement's Support System were supported by the Secretariat as they took on the role of speaking on behalf of the Movement. and some Executive Committee members took part in visits to Chad and Ethiopia, and a Lead Group member joined the Niger visit. Reports from all events were shared with the Networks and across the Movement.

The Secretariat supported the SUN Coordinator to engage in relevant global level meetings in order to highlight the importance of nutrition to global leaders and advance the aims of the Movement. These included the World Economic Forum (Jan), World Health Assembly (May), EAT Stockholm Food Forum (June), High Level Political Forum (July), UNGA (Sep), Committee on Food Security (Oct), Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly (Oct), IFPRI-FAO Conference (November), and Global Citizen Festival (Dec). In addition, the SUN Coordinator engaged with the ongoing reform of the United Nations development system, ensuring that the lessons of the SUN Movement's cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable change in countries are recognised and built on. In the second half of the year, the Secretariat initiated work on the next SUN Movement Global Gathering, and, informed by the Lead Group's strategic direction, began work on a concept note for the Global Gathering and identified three potential host countries in Asia to recommend to the Executive Committee for decision in January 2019.

The Secretariat continued its work on building trust and managing conflict of interests, working with two Ethics Advisers to counsel members of the Movement on potential conflicts of interest. The Ethics Advisers delivered two events, most notably a partner meeting during the May 2018 World Health Assembly Nutrition Hub, and a training during the October 2018 SUN Movement Network retreat. The Ethics Advisers also provided advisory services to the SUN Civil Society Network on the violation of international norms as well as to the SUN Business Network on the revision of their membership policy.

## Outcomes of the Secretariat's Multi-Year Framework

### Primary Outcome 1: Improved accountability by all SUN Stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in the SUN Strategy & Roadmap

*Intermediary Outcome 1.1: Increased capacity of SUN movement stewardship to fulfil their responsibilities to guide the movement*

#### **Activity Indicators**

- One face-to-face meeting of the Lead Group during UNGA and four meetings of the Executive Committee organised and facilitated each year in accordance with established modus operandi;
- Lead Group engagement plan (advocacy strategy) finalised and implemented (see Intermediate Outcome 2.2);

- Number of bilateral meetings / calls between Coordinator and Lead Group members;
- Number of SUN country visits undertaken by the Coordinator;
- Ethical Framework complete and up-to-date.

### **2018 Results Snapshot**

In September 2018, in the margins of the UN General Assembly, the Secretariat organised the meeting of the SUN Movement Lead Group in New York which was attended by 19 SUN Lead Group members in person. It was the first meeting of the recently appointed Chair, Henrietta H. Fore, Executive Director of UNICEF. Significant time and preparation were invested in on-boarding the new Chair to lead a successful meeting, which was widely credited for being the most strategic and content-rich Lead Group meeting to date. The meeting resulted in an [Outcome Statement](#) that was widely circulated amongst member countries of the Movement.

The 2018 Lead Group [engagement plan](#) which supported 75% of Lead Group members to continue playing active advocacy roles was finalized in early 2018. The Coordinator held bilateral meetings with 17 Lead Group members and capitalised on their influence and institutional leadership via several engagements as noted below. In December 2018, a renewed composition of the Lead Group was approved by the UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed. Final vetting of candidates is underway (as of February 2019), and letters of invitation will be shared with the group from the UN Secretary-General in March 2019. This will be followed by a press release to mark the new groups tenure.

In 2018, the SUN Movement's Executive Committee held three teleconferences and a face-to-face retreat in January 2018 which resulted in a call-to-action to all layers of the SUN Movement Support System. The Secretariat supported the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee in organizing, facilitating and preparing background materials for these meetings. The Coordinator fostered regular exchanges with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee.

As a member of the Lead Group, the activities of the SUN Movement Coordinator propel powerful advocacy for nutrition and represent an incredible opportunity to increase high-level political engagement.

The Ethical Framework agreed upon by the Coordinator and Executive Committee in September 2016 was still in place and the Secretariat continued to maintain and update the ethical framework as required and will continue doing so in all operations and activities in future.

### **2018 Activities**

**Support to the Lead Group:** The Secretariat, working closely with the SUN Movement Chair's team at UNICEF, led on the preparation and organisation of the SUN Lead Group meeting on 23 September 2018 at UNICEF Headquarters. The Secretariat supported the onboarding of a new Chair of the SUN Movement Lead Group and organised a successful meeting of the Group in the margins of United Nations General Assembly in New York. Members re-committed to the Movement and called for a stronger focus to support SUN member countries. Recommendations included the need to preserve the Movement's focus on the first 1000 days, with additional emphasis on adolescence and inclusion of youth; more work to leverage the Movement's strong private sector and civil society engagement; and the need to focus on food, health and social protection systems. These were backed by personal commitments from Lead Group members to champion the Movement in their personal capacity and through the organisations they lead. The Secretariat disseminated these recommendations and moved quickly to implement a country-focused approach (for example, pushing for a country convergence plan for the Networks). The Secretariat helped to secure the active engagement of over 75% of the SUN Lead Group, planning their engagement in key moments throughout the year and also supporting the Coordinator and Lead Group Chair in the renewal of a third of Lead Group members.

An Outcome Statement of the meeting was prepared by the Secretariat and made available on the website (summary notes of the Lead Group meetings can be found [here](#)). A range of advocacy videos showcasing the SUN Lead Group's commitments were also developed at the meeting and were widely disseminated across the Movement (which can be found [here](#)).

**Support to the Coordinator:** As a member of the Lead Group, the Coordinator focuses on increasing the momentum of the SUN Movement, with a goal of raising high-level political commitment to nutrition. The Coordinator, similarly encourages SUN member countries to not only focusing on an enabling environment for nutrition, but also include implementation and results at scale. In all engagements, the SUN Movement Coordinator has encouraged political leaders to embrace the transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and focus on the importance of nutrition as a maker and marker of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Coordinator conducted high-level country missions to twelve countries throughout the year including Vietnam, Zambia, the Gambia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Chad, Ethiopia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, El Salvador, Guinea and Niger. As underlined in the 2018 SUN Movement's Mid Term Review, the SUN Movement Coordinator's visits have a significant political impact, generate momentum at country level among the members of the Multi-Stakeholder Platform and support the operationalization of commitments at the local level. Where possible meetings were organised with Heads of State and with all the various Ministers involved in tackling malnutrition. The Coordinator's missions further included bilateral meetings with the highest-level representatives from UN agencies, Donor representatives, Businesses, Civil Society Organisations, Academia, Parliament and the media to encourage political prioritization of nutrition, enactment of pro-nutrition policies and legislation, coordination, alignment and investment. The Secretariat prepared and supported these missions through the production of speaking points, preparation of opinion pieces and PowerPoint presentations, in addition to a range of video recordings.

**Support to the Executive Committee:** The Executive Committee held a retreat in January 2018 and three teleconferences in May, July and November 2018. Summary notes of all these meetings are available [here](#). Throughout the year, the Executive Committee provided oversight on a range of priority areas, including the SUN Movement Mid-term review, the SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system, nutrition in fragile contexts, empowerment of women and girls, addressing the multiple burdens of malnutrition, as well as the preparations of the Lead Group meeting. Executive Committee members took part in visits to Chad and Ethiopia. Linkages and exchanges with the SUN Movement support system have been intensified to enhance collaboration and strengthen mutual accountability within the Movement. The Executive Committee conducted a self-assessment exercise in October to review its own work and efforts.

In 2018, three Executive Committee members stepped down and had to be replaced. One additional government representative joined the Executive Committee to strengthen SUN country perspectives. The Coordinator provided regular updates to the Executive Committee on the progress of the Movement and maintained frequent contact with the Chair and Vice-Chair to get guidance on the future direction of the Movement and on concrete issues, such as Lead Group renewal and membership of the SUN Movement.

**Collaboration with SUN Networks:** Collaboration with the SUN Movement Networks intensified in 2018, resulting in stronger connections between and across the Networks. This was evident in the planning of the SUN Movement Coordinator's country visits, in the roll-out of the MEAL system, and when jointly organising events such as the SUN Nutrition Hub during the 2018 WHA. Two SUN Network retreats in March and October brought together key actors from all four SUN Networks and the Secretariat. Both retreats were considered a success by participants. The second retreat notably produced a detailed Collaboration Framework 2019-2020, which has been submitted to the SUN Movement's Executive Committee.

**The Ethical Framework:** The SUN Movement Ethical Framework, which was agreed by the Coordinator and Executive Committee in September 2016, ensures that space is provided for aspects of transparency and accountability of the Movement's stewardship arrangements and support system, so that they can be easily assessed by those inside and outside of the Movement. It requires public availability of the following items: Terms of Reference of the SUN Movement Coordinator, Executive Committee and Lead Group; details on the process of nominating members of the SUN Movement Executive Committee and Lead Group as well as details on the appointment of the SUN Movement Coordinator; biographies of SUN Movement Coordinator, Executive Committee and Lead Group; minutes from meetings of the SUN Movement Lead Group and Executive Committee; a signed SUN Movement Code of Conduct from the SUN Movement Coordinator and each member

of the Executive Committee. Each member of the SUN Movement Executive Committee completes a Declaration of Interest, which is kept by the Director of the Secretariat in a register of interests and is updated as needed, with yearly reviews. More information can be found here on the SUN Movement [website](#).

***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

None

***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- The 2019 SUN Lead Group meeting will take place during the 74th Session of United Nations General Assembly on the backdrop of the climate and universal health conferences as well as the high-level review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. This will provide another opportunity for the Lead Group to engage with each other as well as with the priorities of the Movement during the course of 2019.
- The SUN Movement Coordinator will aim at visiting 7 countries in 2019 with significant additional planning to ensure greater impact in SUN Countries and involvement by SUN Networks and Executive Committee members. Whilst country visits form part of the central activities of the Secretariat, it should be noted that each visit is very demanding in terms of timing and resources.
- It is envisaged that the Lead Group and Executive Committee members will also have opportunities to extend their influence on nutrition-related and nutrition-sensitive engagements throughout the year, as much as their time and resources can permit. These opportunities include accompanying the Coordinator on some in-country visits and network meeting opportunities.
- The tenure of the Ethical Advisors has been extended and the Secretariat will continue to work with them to keep up-to-date with the evolving requirements of the Movement and its members as the 2019 workplan gets delivered.

*Intermediary Outcome 1.2: Increased Use of the System for Monitoring, Evaluating, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system by all SUN Movement stakeholder for knowledge sharing and learning*

***Activity Indicators***

- Secretariat's Information System is up-to-date and used with annual Joint-Assessments to inform annual SUN Movement Progress Report;
- SUN Movement Annual Progress Report is complete, translated, published on SUN Movement website;
- >80% of SUN government focal points (or appointed representatives) participating in SUN Movement global gatherings and >50% participating in regional gathering and other face-to-face learning and sharing events.

***2018 Results Snapshot***

As part of the Monitoring, Evaluating, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system uptake plan, the MEAL database was used to identify thematic areas for which countries or regions are lagging and to group member countries into categories or cohorts based on their progress vis-à-vis the MEAL domains (e.g. enabling environment, finance, legislation, etc.). In response to requests from SUN stakeholders and partners, analyses were conducted to develop briefs (i.e. on multiple forms of malnutrition, situation of women and girls, humanitarian situation) and presentations (i.e. for SAFANSI South Asia workshop on food systems, for UNICEF South Asia and UNICEF West Africa regional workshops on maternal nutrition, for the EU-missions global workshop, for NEPAD regional workshops). Upon request from the SUN Executive Committee, an econometric analysis was also completed to explore the association between progress in scaling up nutrition and duration as a member of the SUN Movement. The MEAL Country Dashboards were also extensively used by the SUN Movement Mid-Term Review team.

MEAL sub-national Dashboards were developed for ten (10) SUN countries based on a comprehensive mapping of available data. A collaboration with the EU-funded National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) initiative will ensure that the work on sub-national dashboards is further advanced and tested in ten SUN countries. Lessons learned from the approach should be shared across interested SUN countries.

Three (3) in-depth country visits (also called “deep dives”) were completed in El Salvador, Madagascar and Benin yielding a significant amount of evidence on the value-add of the SUN Movement and on what is happening at sub-national level. Country briefs were prepared for the Mid-Term Review Team and key findings were consolidated into a final report. Country specific reports were prepared by the national consultants with support from the SUN Secretariat. The fifth round of Joint Annual Assessments was conducted with involvement of 53 countries and with representation from all SUN Networks.

In 2018, the Secretariat produced, translated and published the [2018 SUN Movement’s Annual Progress Report](#) – launched at the IFPRI/FAO global event “Accelerating the end of Hunger and Malnutrition” in Bangkok on 29 November. This report was based on a range of country tracking documents, including Joint-Assessment reports received from 53 SUN countries, as part of the 2018 Joint-Assessment and data collection exercise through the MEAL system.

In 2018, there was no Global Gathering organised in accordance with the decision by the Executive Committee to hold the Gatherings every two years. The next SUN Movement Global Gathering will take place in a SUN Country in Asia in November / December 2019.

### **2018 Activities**

**Consolidation and use of the MEAL database:** Additional work was undertaken to further consolidate the MEAL database (available in the SUN Movement [MEAL webpage](#)) and related [Country Dashboards](#) for all 60 SUN countries<sup>1</sup>. Data was used to inform several analyses requested by the SUN Coordinator and SUN partners. The MEAL database and the information from the Joint Annual Assessments were extensively used by the Mid-Term Review Team.

**Launch and publishing of MEAL Country Dashboards:** The MEAL Country Dashboards were introduced for the first time to country partners taking advantage of different opportunities including one webinar with SUN countries and regional workshops organized by partners (e.g. SAFANSI, European Union, UNICEF, etc.). In April 2018, a webinar was conducted with all SUN countries to answer questions on the Joint Annual Assessment exercise and to introduce the MEAL Country Dashboards as a tool to inform discussions on country progress and priorities.

**Exploration of the potential for sub-national MEAL Dashboards:** A mapping of MEAL data was conducted for twenty countries to get a sense of the number of indicators available at sub-national level. Consequently, ten sub-national Dashboards were developed to get feedback from countries. This work has informed the ongoing collaboration with the EU-funded initiative on the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) in ten SUN countries.

**Conduct of in-depth country reviews (also called deep dives) to learn about SUN in practice:** The Secretariat organized three in-depth country visits with a focus on better understanding what is happening at sub-national level in countries that were early joiners of the SUN Movement. Three countries – El Salvador, Benin and Madagascar – were selected based on the interest demonstrated by the SUN Focal Point and the partners in-country. The Secretariat supported the cost of two international consultants and three national consultants. The study protocol was developed in consultation with the MEAL Advisory Group. MQSUN+ supported one consultant for the development of an online platform to support the data management and analysis. Findings were presented to the Lead Group and partially incorporated in the Mid-Term Review.

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<sup>1</sup> Additional materials include the [2016 Baseline Report](#), the [2016 Baseline Executive Summary](#), the All SUN Countries Dashboard and the related Dataset (available in the SUN Movement [MEAL webpage](#)).

**Implementation of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) round of Joint Annual Assessment:** The SUN Movement Joint Annual Assessment is part of the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system used as the means of measuring the extent to which the SUN Movement is achieving results and impact at country level. The 2018 Joint Annual Assessment Exercise aimed to: 1) Promote the coming together of teams of in-country stakeholders in a participatory process, to align their vision of the status of institutional transformations for scaling up nutrition in each SUN Country, including progress over the past year; 2) Give a snapshot of challenges and obstacles faced; 3) Set common priorities for 2018-2019, and appreciate the support available for achieving them; 4) Provide concrete inputs to the decision-making process of the SUN Movement Global Support System, including the SUN Movement Executive Committee, Lead Group, Networks, Experts, Coordinator and Secretariat. The exercise best undertaken as a participatory process, brought together relevant in-country stakeholders working to scale up nutrition, including representatives from government, civil society, science and academia, donors, the United Nations, businesses, and other relevant actors. In 2018, a record 53 countries undertook Joint Annual Assessments, which can be accessed here: <https://scalingupnutrition.org/progress-impact/monitoring-evaluation-accountability-learning-meal/joint-assessment-exercise/>

**Gathering of evidence on the effectiveness of multi-stakeholder partnerships:** The Secretariat collaborated in a study led by the University of Sussex - Institute of Development Studies (IDS) to investigate the evidence on multi-stakeholder partnerships in Indonesia. The global SUN Movement Theory of Change was used as the generic reference and adapted to the transformational pathway envisaged in the Indonesian national plan. National data was used to complement MEAL data to make it easier for policy makers to identify the links with their own local actions.

**Implementation of the SUN Movement Mid-Term Review:** The Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the SUN Movement was conducted by a group of consultants based on Terms of Reference developed by the Executive Committee and managed by MQSUN+. The MTR included an online survey to assess the Global Support System, review of secondary information based on the MEAL system and country visits. Findings were presented to the Lead Group at their meeting in September 2018 and discussed by the Executive Committee at their retreat in January 2019.

**Publishing of the 2018 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report:** In 2018, the Secretariat drafted, designed, translated (into French, Spanish) and printed the SUN Movement Annual Progress Report, based on the Joint Annual Assessments, the MEAL system and routine tracking by the Secretariat. The SUN Movement Annual Progress Report for 2018 was our most ambitious report yet, showcasing individual country and collective progress, and providing targeted analysis at the regional level. For the first time, the report included an interactive online version, with chapter pull-outs and easily accessible country profiles – as they represent the most downloaded item from the progress report. In 2018, the Annual SUN Movement Progress Report was officially launched to an audience of 200 at a dedicated side event at the IFPRI-FAO Conference on ‘Accelerating the End of Hunger and Malnutrition’ in Bangkok.. It was widely disseminated physically and online and the launch featured an interactive panel discussion with four SUN Government Focal Points as well as a SUN youth leader and private sector innovator. The report – and its chapter on the Latin American and Caribbean region, in particular – were also launched at the XXVI Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, in Guatemala and regional lift outs of the report will continue to be launched throughout 2019.

**Provision of opportunities for learning exchange:** In 2018, the Secretariat sponsored the participation of SUN partners’ representatives in regional and global gatherings and other face-to-face learning and sharing events when alternative financing for travel was not available at the country level. This included six (6) Executive Committee members attending the face-to-face retreat of the Executive Committee in Geneva (January), four (4) Lead Group members attending the SUN Lead Group meeting in New York (September) and focal points from six (6) countries (Namibia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Ethiopia, Senegal, Madagascar, Pakistan) to attend various events such as the African Parliament Meeting in Johannesburg in March, the EAT Forum in June in Stockholm, the High Level Political Forum in New York in July and the IPU Assembly in Geneva in October. Two (2) SUN Focal Points (from Nepal and DR Congo) were involved in the SUN Nutrition Champions training.

***Difficulties (if any) – measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

Significant attention was devoted to the development of the MEAL database and related Country Dashboards for monitoring purposes. In striving for simplicity, some of the richness of the back-end source data (e.g. Joint Annual Assessment or Network performance evidence) was sacrificed in the Country Dashboard. The Secretariat with support from the MEAL Advisory Group will explore different ways of presenting the data in a more-compelling and easily interpretable way to ensure that ‘behaviour change’ progress is better captured alongside the Theory of Change.

The Joint Annual Assessments are an integral part of the MEAL System and have the strongest link to ensuring mutual accountability at country level. As recognized by the Mid-Term Review, the Joint Annual Assessments provide a key opportunity to ‘get the whole SUN system into the room’ at the country level. In the year-ahead the SUN Secretariat will work with the country teams in SUN countries to ensure that representatives from the Global Support System can attend the Joint Annual Assessments as ‘learners’. An online system will be devised to make the Joint Annual Assessment reporting easier and ensure that information is better collected and stored. The online system should allow country teams that have gone through many rounds of JAAs to only focus on those progress markers where they see significant change (or no change at all).

There are still missed opportunities to document and promote learning within the Movement. The establishment of a SUN Academy as envisaged by the SUN Coordinator should help in promoting a clear learning strategy that goes beyond ad-hoc examples of limited diffusion of approaches, tools, and/or information between countries. The Networks are expected to play a crucial role in the promotion of learning and the country ‘deep dives’ planned for 2019 will offer a great opportunity for leveraging promising practices and experiences.

### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- Address MEAL-related recommendations from the Mid-Term Review to ensure that MEAL is understood as a system;
- Ensure that available evidence from different data sources is better presented vis-à-vis the SUN Theory of Change;
- Launch of the Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) round of Joint Annual Assessments in all SUN countries. The 2019 JAA exercise will be positioned as a celebration of country-level successes at the global and national levels. Comprehensive support from the Lead Group, Executive Committee, SMS, Global and Local Networks is contemplated.
- Enhance the role of the Joint Annual Assessment to promote mutual accountability is enhanced as part of the MEAL system;
- Facilitate the development of an online reporting system to make the 2019 JAA reporting a simpler process;
- Explore, develop and apply innovative communication solutions for more compelling, interpretable, and visual data along with better presentation of lessons learned;
- Build on sub national dashboards and integrate an informed decision-making approach, both which will be tested in collaboration with NIPN in selected SUN countries;
- In collaboration with SUN Networks, conduct 4-6 in-country ‘deep dives’;
- Develop and initiate the Terms of Reference and procurement process for the 2019-2020 Strategic Review exercise;
- Explore and determine, with consensus, the scope and working modality of the SUN Academy to facilitate knowledge and experience sharing and learning;
- Deliver the next SUN Movement Global Gathering in an Asian SUN Country.

*Intermediate Outcome 1.3: Better coordinated contribution of all SUN Movement stakeholders to the broader development agenda to improve its coherence and relevance for nutrition*

**Activity Indicators**

- Participation and active contribution of the Secretariat and Coordinator in key global events relevant to nutrition governance;
- Briefings are prepared and disseminated to SUN Countries on key policy issues and discussions;
- At least three (3) new relationships are developed with key partners that can help accelerate progress on nutrition.

**2018 Results Snapshot**

The SUN Movement Coordinator and Secretariat helped shape and moderate key events that took place at a range of crucial moments for nutrition, including the 71st Session of the World Health Assembly (WHA), the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF), the UN General Assembly and the 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on World Food Security.

Throughout the year, at key international events and fora, the Coordinator shaped, influenced and helped drive focus on nutrition, on behalf of the Movement. Both within the United Nations system and externally, speaking engagements and meetings were focussed on developing nutrition awareness, country-level engagement and cross-sectoral working to ensure delivery of nutrition and health related development goals. These activities at regional and international levels, also involved execution in collaboration with SUN Movement partners.

The Secretariat also provided a briefing for SUN Government Focal Points and their multi-stakeholder platforms in advance of the World Health Assembly (May), the High-Level Political Forum (July) and Committee on World Food Security (October) explaining the purpose of the events, the key nutrition-related issues on the agenda and opportunities for SUN Countries to engage. Members of the Movement's global support system were encouraged and supported by the Secretariat to take on the role of speaking on behalf of the Movement. In addition, the SUN Coordinator engaged with the ongoing reform of the UN development system, ensuring the lessons from the SUN cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable change in-country are recognised and built upon.

At the heart of the Movement is the conviction that we can achieve more together than alone. In support of this, the Secretariat has been working to build new and strengthen existing partnerships that are key to ensuring the greatest positive impact in improving nutrition. In 2018, the Secretariat developed workplans with EAT, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and IFPRI. The Secretariat also continued its collaboration with Sanitation and Water for All, a global partnership committed to achieving universal access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation to strengthen collaboration and accelerate results.

**2018 Activities**

**Global and Regional Engagement:** The Secretariat increased its strategic engagement in key intergovernmental and political fora on behalf of the Movement through support to the SUN Movement Coordinator. This was delivered through participation at relevant global level meetings in order to highlight the importance of nutrition to global leaders and advance the aims of the Movement. The Secretariat organised a programme of events in the margins of the World Health Assembly, its first ever SUN Nutrition Hub, to welcome delegations from SUN member countries and raise visibility of their challenges and progress to a global audience. During the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the Secretariat co-organised three side events, involving SUN Government Focal Points to showcase their experiences in ensuring nutrition is central to the SDG agenda. At the UN General Assembly (September), the Secretariat partnered with the EAT Foundation, the SDG2 Advocacy Hub, the SUN Business Network and World Vision on multiple events and arranged for the SUN Coordinator to be a presenter during the High-Level Meeting on NCDs. The Secretariat also helped to organize official side events with key partners at the Inter-Parliamentary Union Summit in October and three side events at the IFPRI-FAO Conference in Bangkok, including the official launch of the 2018 SUN Movement Annual Progress Report in November. An

official side event was arranged at the Ibero-American Summit with the Government of Guatemala during the SUN Movement Coordinator's high-level visits to Latin-American member countries. Other key international engagements that the Coordinator was present were the World Economic Forum (January), EAT Stockholm Food Forum (June), Committee on World Food Security (October) and the Global Citizen Festival (December).

***Partnership Development:*** The SUN Secretariat continued its partnership with Sanitation and Water for All (SWA), organising a side event during the HLPF, where SDG 6 (availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all) was under review. The event also brought together key global partnerships including Every Woman Every Child and the Global Partnership for Education. It convened SUN Focal points from Senegal, Mozambique and Afghanistan to demonstrate the importance of linking nutrition, health, education and WASH in a wholistic approach. In addition, a series of case studies were also initiated exploring WASH-Nutrition linkages with SWA which will be released in 2019 detailing the impact of multisectoral coordination in several SUN Countries.

The SUN Secretariat also initiated a more formal work agenda with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Building on his membership in the SUN Lead Group, IPU Secretary-General Mr. Martin Chungong sent a letter to all Speakers of Parliament in SUN Countries encouraging them to organise a national nutrition debate (<https://scalingupnutrition.org/news/ipu-secretary-general-calls-for-action-on-nutrition-from-speakers-of-parliament/>). The SUN Secretariat working with IPU also helped to organize a high-level nutrition and food systems conference of the Pan African Parliament (<https://scalingupnutrition.org/news/time-act-nutrition-food-systems-africa>) and organised a parliamentary roundtable at the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly on food and nutrition legislation (<https://scalingupnutrition.org/news/parliamentarian-action-on-food-and-nutrition-at-the-139-ipu-assembly/>). Mr. Chungong also raised the importance of nutrition and advocated for the SUN Movement with multiple Speakers of Parliaments and through informal speeches in Vietnam and China.

Through its ongoing partnership with the EAT Foundation, the SUN Secretariat organised key side events on food systems at the UNGA. The EAT Foundation also supported the 2017 SUN Nutrition Champions to join the Stockholm Food Forum and to undertake a 3-day capacity building training.

***Country Support on Policy Issues and Discussions:*** The Secretariat organized a briefing for Permanent Representatives of Diplomatic Missions based in Geneva (December), to familiarize them with the SUN Movement, its approach and progress and to raise awareness of nutrition and its critical role for achieving the SDGs. The aim of such briefings is to better coordinate the contributions of SUN Movement stakeholders to the broader development agenda, to highlight the relevance of nutrition and foster more coherence on nutrition governance.

#### ***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

Further SUN Movement briefings that were planned for Permanent Representatives in New York and Rome had to be postponed to 2019 due to agenda constraints. These are expected to be undertaken within 2019.

In anticipation of increased activities, further prioritisation of global engagements will be required in 2019, in order to facilitate sufficient time and planning into country visits and planning for the SUN Global Gathering, while still delivering on support to member countries.

#### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- A briefing for Permanent Representatives based in Rome will take place in February 2019, along the margins of the World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Board meeting;
- Continued fostering of collaboration and development of key partnerships focused on coherence, scalable and replicable support and results at country level;
  - For example, training of the SUN Government Focal Points will take place at the EAT Stockholm Food Forum and country level dissemination of the EAT Lance Report on Food, Health, Planet will take place in SUN Countries;

- A Memorandum of Collaboration will be established with the Partnership for Maternal and Newborn Child Health (PMNCH) and AGRA;
- Collaborations with GAVI and the Global Fund are being explored in relation to ensuring nutrition is central to the Universal Health Coverage agenda
- Continued showcasing of the SUN Movement’s impact in key forums such as the World Economic Forum, the Sanitation and Water for All Finance Ministers Meeting, Woman Deliver 2019, the Stockholm Food Forum 2019, the World Health Assembly, the HLPF, UNGA, AGRA Forum and the CFS;
- Continued dissemination of policy support information and briefings to SUN countries.

**Primary Outcome 2: Increased implementation and monitoring of nutrition multi-sectoral plans by coordinated stakeholders in all SUN Countries**

*Intermediate Outcome 2.1: Improved access to and better use of resources for multi-sectoral plans for nutrition in all SUN Countries*

**Activity Indicators**

- % of NEW plans reviewed by the Secretariat using the Quality Checklist (80% in 2017, 100% in 2018, 100% in 2019);
- % of budget analyses received from SUN countries that are reviewed by the Secretariat to inform advocacy efforts at global and country levels (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019);
- % of SUN countries doing their annual joint-assessment and linking it with monitoring of spending, implementation and results data (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019).

**2018 Results Snapshot**

The SUN Secretariat, together with partners, was able to advance the work streams on planning and implementation by making use of strategies and tools developed in 2017 and 2016. As a result:

- 15 new national action plans for nutrition were reviewed using the commonly agreed SUN Movement [Checklist for Quality](#) Plans and including a gender lens. Country briefs were prepared to inform the dialogue with SUN countries on how to improve the quality of their plans.
- By 2018, 50 countries have done the analysis of their national spending on nutrition and have used their findings for advocacy and planning purposes. The additional budget analyses received from 20 SUN countries were analysed and findings were presented into [National Investment Snapshots](#).
- The Secretariat is collaborating with the EU-led initiative on National Information Platforms on Nutrition (NIPN) to develop and test the use of subnational dashboards to better inform decision making in ten countries.
- A group of organizations have come together under the catalytic initiative on Knowledge Implementation and Impact (KI3) coordinated by IFPRI, the Society for Implementation Science on Nutrition (SISN) and the SUN Secretariat.
- 53 countries voluntarily assessed their progress, evaluating financial feasibility of national plans to implement actions for improved nutrition.

Lessons learned from these workstreams are being harnessed by the Secretariat to strengthen the knowledge within the SUN Movement on multi-sectoral planning and implementation.

## 2018 Activities

**Completed the first systematic review of national action plans using the Quality Checklist:** The review was conducted by MQSUN+ using the Quality Checklist developed by the SUN Movement in 2016. Findings were used to develop short briefs for country discussion on how to enhance the utility of the country plans for scaling up nutrition. Findings were also used to provide an overview on how well gender is mainstreamed in national plans.

**Completed the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) round of budget analyses:** The Secretariat provided remote support to all interested countries to undertake the analysis and to summarize the findings into Country Investment Snapshots. This effort was complemented by in-country support provided by MQSUN+.

**Explored ways to scale up management and use of disaggregated data for decision making:** The collaboration with the EU-funded initiative on the National Information Platforms for Nutrition (NIPN) in ten SUN countries is expected to explore best ways to manage and use disaggregated data at sub-national levels for informed policy making, accountability and advocacy. The Secretariat is also partnering with other organizations and initiatives through the MEAL Advisory Group.

**Brought the catalytic initiative on Implementation Knowledge and Impact into fruition:** One workshop was organized in Geneva to bring together SUN Networks and partners that are actively involved in knowledge management with a focus on implementation. A follow up session was organized during the IFPRI-FAO global gathering in Bangkok (November) to bring all partners into a consensus on the strategic vision and the ways to share forthcoming efforts and emergent experiences across organizations and countries.

53 of the 60 countries voluntarily assessed their progress, evaluating financial feasibility of national plans to implement actions for improved nutrition. Through Process 4 of the Joint Annual Assessments, countries evaluated their capability to track planned and actual spending on nutrition across relevant government ministries and from external partners. In 2018, countries also evaluated in the Joint Annual Assessments their progress in scaling up nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions over the past 12 months.

### ***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritization in implementation***

The review of the national action plans shows strengths in the quality of the plans when it comes to a comprehensive analysis of the nutrition situation and factors, engagement of multiple stakeholders and inclusion of measurable targets and indicators. However, challenges may arise when it comes to the actual implementation of the plans as most documents do not provide guidance on the operational aspects and have not included cost estimates. Findings should help the SUN Coordinator and SUN partners to better engage with country teams and mobilize technical assistance as needed to improve the quality of current plans.

The World Bank initially agreed to estimate the finance gaps in SUN countries based on the Investment Framework for Nutrition. However, this activity was later de-prioritized by the World Bank and was not picked up by any partner. The Secretariat is now recruiting a Senior Country Finance Advisor, who will work with countries and SUN Networks to facilitate information and access to finance sources for nutrition.

### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- 100% of received plans by SUN countries are expected to be reviewed using the [Quality Checklist](#) and findings will be shared with country teams in the form of briefs. External Technical Assistance is expected to be mobilized as needed;
- 90% of SUN countries will have completed their budget analyses at least once and half of them have done it twice or more times and are using the findings for advocacy and improved planning and implementation;
- Draw lessons from the NIPN collaboration in 10 SUN countries to understand how SUN countries can manage and use data at the sub-national level for informed decisions on policies, programs and investments;

- Draw lessons and advice from the Knowledge Implementation Initiative to inform the establishment of the SUN Movement Academy;
- The fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) year of the budget analysis should focus much more on the use of data for advocacy and planning purposes. During the year, the Secretariat will strive to bring all the SUN Networks on board (especially the donor and civil society networks) to ensure that the analysis of spending is a joint exercise conducted by the multi-stakeholder platforms. Engagement of parliamentarians, media and UN Resident Coordinators should also help to raise the profile of the budget analysis exercise and outcomes;
- The learning generated within the SUN Movement on how to scale up implementation and achieve better impact should be properly harnessed and shared to get an effective oversight and draw key and up-to-date information on current efforts, including in the provision of technical assistance. The establishment of a SUN Academy could bring the desired leadership and intentionality to help the SUN Secretariat better coordinate with partners to achieve more coherent Knowledge Management within the SUN Movement.
- The amount of evidence from Joint Annual Assessments should be better captured and shared for mutual accountability at country level and for learning functions. In order to optimize the information and assure richer Joint Annual Assessment discussions, the Secretariat will further support countries in the Joint Annual Assessment process with representatives of the global support system.

*Intermediate Outcome 2.2: Increased salience of nutrition as a top policy, financing and institutional priority by the SUN Movement at national, regional and global levels*

#### **Activity Indicators**

- % of SUN countries mobilizing nutrition advocates (high-level, champions, parliamentarians, media) (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019);
- Increased access (website downloads) to digital and print communications generated by the Secretariat;
- As well as increased country stakeholder editorial contributions (number of SUN website articles and publications), virtual learning exchanges (number of SUN Movement webinars and discussion forums), and uptake of advocacy resources (downloads of tools).

#### **2018 Results Snapshot**

In 2018, an average of 68% of SUN Countries were mobilising nutrition advocates either through engagement with heads of states and first ladies, eminent personalities, celebrities, athletes, parliamentarians and the media. Throughout 2018, the Secretariat focused on motivating, resourcing and engaging these individuals to help cultivate several strong champions who can maintain commitment and energy throughout SUN Countries. The Secretariat played a pivotal role in supporting SUN Countries' advocacy efforts by ensuring they had access to the information, materials and tools they needed as well as offering a platform for countries to share their experience, work and progress. The impactful roles that nutrition champions play, both as advocates and coaches with valuable experience to share, has become increasingly clear.

In 2018, there were 181,226 visitors to the SUN Movement website with 16,301 downloads of various tools and resources.

#### **2018 Activities**

**Nutrition Advocacy:** In 2018, more SUN Countries were mobilising nutrition advocates. 41 countries – 7 more than in 2016-2017 – leveraged the political powers of parliamentarians to cement nutrition as a national priority. This was supported by the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and member of the SUN Movement Lead Group, Martin Chungong, who encouraged all speakers of parliament to scrutinise national nutrition efforts, annually. The media is spreading the nutrition word across 38 SUN countries, with more and more countries across the Movement following suit. 31 SUN countries nominated one, or several, high-level political or social champions for nutrition – from Presidents, Prime Ministers and First Ladies, to sports stars and celebrities.

In June 2018, the Secretariat arranged the first of its kind training for 13 champions of nutrition over three days at the EAT Stockholm Food Forum. There was positive feedback from the champions, and each submitted a workplan which has guided their advocacy throughout the year.

To support the impactful roles that these nutrition champions can play, the Secretariat has mapped tools and resources for nutrition champions, parliament and media engagement on nutrition and is hosting them on the SUN Movement website. The Secretariat, working with the Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN), has set up an online discussion forum for SUN Movement priorities utilising the existing platform EN Net.

**Access to communications:** The SUN Movement’s multi-lingual website ([www.scalingupnutrition.org](http://www.scalingupnutrition.org)) is continually being updated to reflect developments from SUN Countries and across the Movement. Its steady usage illustrates the importance of the website as a key point of access for the SUN Movement. Significant developments have been made in developing new content for the website.

These include:

- SUN Countries: the core content on each SUN Country page which is updated regularly, in line with the Annual SUN Movement Progress Report, utilising results from the SUN Movement Joint-Assessment Exercise.
- SUN Supporters: The content of Network pages is updated in collaboration with SUN Networks and is now consistent across all four global networks. A webpage has been developed for the SUN Movement Executive Committee in addition to the SUN Movement Lead Group and Secretariat – all are updated regularly.
- About SUN, nutrition and progress: The content of these sections is continuously updated with the support of partners, when new content becomes available.
- Progress and Impact: which focuses on SUN’s role in global nutrition governance and the impact to date. It also includes the latest information pertaining to the MEAL and links to the MEAL country dashboards.
- Share and Learn: This new section on the SUN Movement website (2016) builds a hub of knowledge where progress towards the SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap (2016-2020) is captured and developed. The most developed areas to date are: Planning and Implementation, and mobilise, advocate and communicate for impact.

See Intermediate Outcome 1.3 regarding the production of the 2018 Annual SUN Movement Progress Report.

See Intermediary Outcomes 31 regarding the organization of webinars and learning exchanges.

In 2018, there were 181,226 visitors to the SUN Movement website with 16,301 downloads of various tools and resources.

	Jan – Mar	April – June	July – September	October - December	Total
<b>Visits</b>	37,432	46,226	49,384	48,184	<b>181,226</b>
<b>Variation*</b>	(-3,9%)	(+22,8%)	(+6,8%)	(-2,4%)	
<b>Français*</b>	-3,9%	+7,2%	+1,0%	+11,5%	
<b>Español*</b>	-8%	+90%	+3,0%	-1,7%	
<b>Average Time</b>	2m:38sec	2m:49sec	2m:52sec	2m:47sec	

<b>Downloads</b>	1,749	5,783	4,052	4,717	<b>16,301</b>
<b>Top Downloads</b>	Progress Report 2017: - Pakistan - Zambia - Indonesia	Strategy and Roadmap Progress Report 2017 MEAL Results & Indicators Nutrition HUB Concept	Strategy and Roadmap Progress Report 2017 SDGs Advocacy Toolkit Progress Report 2017 (PAK, MYA, ZAM)	SUN Report SUN Report (Malawi, Pakistan) MEAL Results & Indicators	

\* Variation: previous (quarterly) report vs current (quarterly) report.

**Country Stakeholder Contributions:** Increasingly throughout the year, the SUN website provided a platform for latest news from SUN member countries, for individual blogs written by in-country stakeholders and more detailed articles about the progress and challenges faced in scaling up nutrition called ‘In Practice’ stories. 20 blog posts were published and translated into French and Spanish. 209 news stories were published and translated into French and Spanish. And 10 ‘In Practice’ articles were published providing a longer format for country stakeholders to unpack their approaches.

**Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation**

Due to the time investment and limited capacity in the Secretariat, it was decided to run nominations for nutrition champions every 2 years.

**2019 Year-ahead Targets**

- In 2019, a full communication review of the SUN Movement will be undertaken which will result in a Movement wide communication plan, new tools and impact stories for communicating about the Movement’s direction and value add. The website will be refreshed boosting its navigation and more efforts will be devoted to packaging the lessons from SUN Countries.
- A new group of nutrition champions will be nominated leading up to the SUN Global Gathering and tools will be made readily available to MP networks in SUN Countries.
- A mapping of advocacy and communication needs will be undertaken in early 2019 and the Secretariat will provide more rapid support to countries as they advocate for nutrition at key moments, particularly in the lead up to elections.

*Intermediate Outcome 2.3: Strengthened functional capacities of individuals and institutions in all SUN Countries to collaborate effectively across sectors and between stakeholders to improve nutrition*

**Activity Indicators**

- Opportunities created for all SUN Countries who request support in strengthening functional capacities;
- >80% of requests made by SUN countries for support to prevent and manage conflict of interest (CoI) in their national nutrition plan or multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) responded by the Secretariat, and/or Ethics Advisers, in a timely and satisfactory way which replaces previous indicator;
- Efforts and investments in functional capacity strengthening are tracked and reported;
- % of SUN countries assessing that their MSP is functioning effectively, reporting scores in the joint assessment of 3 or higher on both progress markers 1.3 (how members engage with and contribute to the MSP) and 1.5 (whether the MSP has sustained political impact) (38% in 2016; 50% in 2017; 60% in 2018 and 70% in 2019).

## **2018 Results Snapshot**

As proposed in the SUN Movement Strategy & Roadmap, and requested by SUN Countries, in 2018 the Secretariat continued the work on two major functional capacity strengthening initiatives that were launched in 2017: a capacity building programme for SUN Country Focal Points and efforts to systematise knowledge and experience and develop tools to support country decision making on Multi-stakeholder Platforms.

In 2018, the number of SUN countries reporting a functioning Multi-stakeholder Platform is 55 out of 60 countries <sup>2</sup> 3. Although countries are reporting progress, over the next years the capacity strengthening, and Multi-stakeholder Platform design programmes being put in place by the Movement should further support country efforts to make Multi-stakeholder Platforms more effective, increase the contributions of members, and sustain their political momentum.

The Secretariat also continued its work by strengthening country capacity in areas of managing conflict of interests within their networks through working with two ethics advisers to counsel members of the Movement on potential conflicts of interest. The Ethics Advisers delivered two events, and also provided advisory services to the SUN Civil Society Network and the SUN Business Network.

## **2018 Activities**

**Launch of capacity building programme for SUN Country Focal Points:** The Secretariat, in collaboration with IFPRI, Nutrition International and MQSUN+, and financial support from DFID launched a capacity building retreat for SUN Country Focal points, following an in-depth diagnostic review. This first retreat took place in Bangkok in November 2018. Being a multi-stakeholder targeted workshop, it was attended by among other agency participants, sixteen (16) SUN focal points, from thirteen (13) countries. The programme included functional strengthening of skills on a range of relevant topics to country focal points including governance, delivering enhanced return on investment, use of data and evidence-based decision making and role of public-private partnerships in nutrition initiatives and programmes.

**Launch of research programme on Multi Stakeholder Platforms design reform:** The Secretariat, in collaboration with the University of Sussex - Institute of Development Studies and Nutrition International, also launched a research programme for the designing or reforming of Multi-stakeholder Platforms. Initial outputs from the study included a series of country briefs which provided useful inputs to the October SUN Network retreat.

**Continued trust building and conflict-of-interest workplan:** The Secretariat continued to pursue a workplan on Building Trust and Preventing and Managing Conflict of Interest, including engaging two (2) SUN Movement Ethics Advisers to provide advisory services to member countries. The Ethics Advisers delivered two events, most notably a partner meeting during the May 2018 World Health Assembly (WHA) Nutrition Hub, and a training workshop during the October 2018 SUN Movement Network retreat. The Advisers also provided advisory services to the SUN Civil Society Network on the violation of international norms, to the SUN Business Network on the revision of their membership policy, and through the Secretariat provided input to global policy consultations.

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<sup>2</sup> 2014: 3/27 = 11%

2015: 7/22 = 32%

2016: 19/42 = 45%

2017: 23/45 = 51%

2018: 55/60 = 91%

<sup>3</sup> The Secretariat adjusted the formula used by countries to report on functioning MSP because each year the number of countries responding to the JAA is not the same as the number of countries giving a score/number for these Progress Markers. The % corresponds to the (# countries scoring 3 or more on both PM 1.3 and PM 1.5) / (# countries giving a score to both these PMs, even if it is 0).

### ***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

It continues to be difficult to turn the apparent interest in managing conflict-of-interest and ethical issues in SUN countries into concrete demand for services that can be provided by the Advisers. This in turn influences effectiveness in identification of new measures, tools or policies that SUN countries would wish to produce.

### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- Funding, partners and a timeline are to be secured for the next two retreats for SUN Country Focal Points to take place during the course of the year;
- Following on the research work on Multi Stakeholder Platform design reform, a toolkit and training course are being designed and expected to be delivered within Q2-2019;
- To ensure that SUN country actors are able to participate, face-to-face, in global discussions that the Secretariat may organize on Conflict of Interest, Ethical Considerations and Trust Building, in order for the Secretariat to get a better sense of concrete country needs, or to clarify doubts and misconceptions.

*Intermediate Outcome 2.4: Increased attention by all SUN Countries to the most vulnerable populations, including women and girls, in the policy and budget management cycle*

### ***Activity Indicators***

- % of NEW plans received from SUN countries that are reviewed by the Secretariat using the Quality Check List with an equity (gender) focus (50% in 2017; 60% in 2018 and 70% in 2019);
- Lessons and concrete examples of applying an equity focus are complete and disseminated.

### ***2018 Results Snapshot***

All 15 new national action plans for nutrition (100%) were reviewed using the commonly agreed SUN Movement [Checklist for Quality](#) with a gender focus, which was expanded to better examine action plans from a gender perspective.

More voices – from differing levels of the Movement – were harnessed to scale up the awareness of linkages between good nutrition, equity, equality and the empowerment of women and girls through op-eds, blogs and statements.

The Lead Group was asked to discuss and build commitments around an Issue Brief on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls when scaling up nutrition, in the lead up to and during the annual Lead Group meeting.

The capacity strengthening workshop for SUN Country Focal Points included a dedicated session on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. At this session, taking basis in the Issue Brief issued to the Lead Group, a specially-created animation was launched.

The reporting template for the 2018 Joint Annual Assessment contained an annex on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, aiming to better understand the landscape and potential bottlenecks faced by SUN countries and their Multi-stakeholder Platforms.

### ***2018 Activities***

***Increase in gender-focused national action plans:*** A more comprehensive set of criteria for the inclusion/integration of gender considerations was included in the review of the national action plans. From the plans that were received and reviewed by the Secretariat, findings were collated in a brief that provided an overview of the gaps in the current plans. Furthermore, the reporting template for the 2018 Joint Annual Assessment, contained an annex on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, which was essential in illustrating a true landscape analysis of how some country-level Multi-stakeholder Platforms are working with national gender machineries and also to gauge good practice – which can be shared across the Movement and its global support system. The 2018 SUN Progress Report, which also looked at key drivers of

malnutrition, systematically integrated analyses of the status of women and girls – as this has a direct implication on the nutrition status of the population, as a whole.

***Enhanced collaborative and collective action for gender focus:*** Partnerships with organisations and initiatives such as Women Deliver (and its ‘Deliver for Good’ campaign), resulted in joint advocacy and communication products, such as opinion pieces, blogs and Facebook Live interviews that increased the audience-base of the SUN Movement as well as showcasing the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration for nutrition results. The Mid-Term Review of the SUN Movement highlights the piece “*Nutrition and Education: More than Food for Thought*” (see [here](#)) as a particularly poignant piece that links sectors – with women and girls at the centre. Key moments, such as International Women’s Day, were harnessed to spread the word about the need and importance of scaling up women’s rights activism – through the voice of three African male leaders and members of the SUN Lead Group – in Africa for improved nutrition (see [here](#)).

As a means to tease out SUN Focal Points’ knowledge and understanding of working towards improved nutrition and gender equality, in tandem, their workshop in Thailand proved essential. This showed the need for more user-friendly tools and more in-depth discussions about the underlying drivers of malnutrition and the added value of the SUN Movement in advancing this agenda. An important highlight in this work was the creation of a dedicated animation, which shows the linkages between good nutrition and equality (see [here](#)) through images and words, which is perfect for larger-scale awareness-raising on the topic, which is foreseen throughout 2019.

***Development of Issue Briefs:*** The Issue Brief on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls when scaling up nutrition, which was first developed in collaboration with Global Affairs Canada and Save the Children International – and their respective principals. With the annual Lead Group meeting being its launchpad, it was an innovative way of garnering support and commitments, but also a means for individual Lead Group members to choose the topics of most relevance to their work and remits, individually and collectively.

#### **Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation**

The review of the national action plans using a gender lens highlights challenges when it comes to the operationalization of strategic recommendations that may be included in the situation analysis. Recommendations should help the SUN Coordinator and SUN partners to better engage with country teams to can translate into tangible actions.

It has been apparent throughout the year that gender equality is seen as integral to the Movement. However, few make the linkages intuitively, without thinking that it amounts to ‘extra’ work or without relegating this responsibility to those particularly concerned (such as women’s machineries or women-specific agencies such as UN Women). This means that a mind shift – in countries and globally – must take place, good practices must be shared, and tools availed – to truly move from lip service to action.

Some work and support in helping countries translate gender-focus into their national plans holistically will need to be undertaken.

#### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- Ensure that gender considerations and equality is better mainstreamed in the review and development of national action plans for nutrition;
- Provide recommendations to SUN member countries on how to apply an equity analysis with a focus on gender and disaggregated data;
- Put in place easy-to-digest and user-friendly tools that better connect dots between improved nutrition and equality;
- Strive for coherence among SUN actors (including Networks) regarding activities, challenges and good practice.

### Primary Outcome 3: Established system for timely and appropriate peer-to-peer exchange and technical cooperation for all SUN countries.

Intermediate Outcome 3.1: Increased use by all SUN Countries of peer-to-peer exchange including on issues related to specific contextual challenges and opportunities

#### Activity Indicators

- % of countries participation in quarterly country calls focusing on SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap priorities (>75% in 2017, >75% in 2018 and >75% in 2019);
- The Secretariat coordinates and facilitates discussions and exchanges related to specific contextual challenges and opportunities amongst SUN Countries and relevant experts as identified appropriate;
- Country call summaries and related publications (In Practice Briefs, Synthesis and Summary Reports) are increasingly downloaded from SUN website.

#### 2018 Results Snapshot

Two series of webinars were conducted in English, French and Spanish, by the Secretariat in May and October 2018, with the participation of 42 SUN countries (70%) on the first series of webinars and 18 eligible SUN countries on the second series.

The virtual learning exchanges focused on opportunities and challenges among SUN countries, bringing experts on two topics: “Using the MEAL System when undertaking the JAA”; and “Funding for Nutrition: Understanding the Global Financing Facility (GFF)”.

The Secretariat organized country-to-country dialogues as part of the Nutrition Hub that took place during the World Health Assembly. This gave SUN country Focal Points the opportunity to exchange on the Joint Annual Assessment as well as on the MEAL system.

Summary Reports were prepared by the SUN Secretariat as a follow-up to these webinars, addressing questions raised by countries, government actors or other stakeholders during the webinars, to further support them. Video recordings of the webinars were shared with all SUN countries and continue to be available from the Secretariat as a knowledge archive.

#### 2018 Activities

**Introduction of Remote Access Learning Exchanges:** In May 2018, the SUN Secretariat organized a webinar – in collaboration with ENN and Secure Nutrition – to support SUN countries undertake the 2018 JAA, to foster exchange among them on challenges and good practices when completing the JAA, as well as to clarify any issues related to the process. This also represented an opportunity to reflect on how to use the MEAL Country Dashboards to spur informed discussions on the country overall performance beyond the enabling environment.

In October 2018, the SUN Secretariat with support of Action Against Hunger and ACTION, led a webinar to provide SUN Focal Points and nutrition communities in countries with a better understanding of what the GFF is and how it works. Considering that the GFF is a key funding opportunity for nutrition programmes, it is essential that SUN Focal Points and the nutrition community at the country level, are aware of this facility and are actively associated with various negotiation stages of GFF-related documents.

The webinars represented a learning exchange with dynamism and more interaction than the country calls the SUN Secretariat had hosted in the past, in this case visual contact was possible. Peer to peer learning was demand-driven and therefore, interactions were centred on thematic discussion. Speakers were identified in advance to share their experiences. Webinars are a Secretariat product, where all teams must collaborate, for them to be successful.

**Introduction of Country-to-Country Dialogues:** In May 2018, the Secretariat organized 2 country-to-country dialogues sessions, one in English and one in French as part of the Nutrition Hub that took place during the World Health Assembly. MQSUN+ presented briefly what is made available to countries in terms of Technical

Assistance and countries made requests of additional information that was specifically useful for them. Following this presentation, a discussion on the link between the JAA and the MEAL system took place, moderated by the Country Liaison Team. In total, seven (7) SUN country Focal Points were able to use the opportunity to exchange with their peers.

Webinars presentations, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents and the video recordings were disseminated and downloaded from the SUN website.

***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

Some technical difficulties were encountered during the execution of the webinars. These were mainly due to bandwidth capacity and connection problems within SUN countries. Alternatives are being sought, within the identified constraints.

***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- The Secretariat, in collaboration with Networks, will aim to organize 3 webinars in 2019 for SUN Countries to share their experience and learn from each other on the following topic areas: (i) Promoting and protecting breastfeeding; (ii) Engaging Parliamentarians for improved nutrition; (iii) Addressing the multiple burdens of malnutrition in SUN Countries.
- For the Global Gathering, the concept development will include defining relevant themes that encourage peer-to-peer exchange and learning from contextual opportunities and challenges among member countries.

***Intermediate Outcome 3.2: Enhanced responsiveness and timeliness of technical and financial support to all SUN Countries***

***Activity Indicators***

- At least 75 % of countries' requests are responded to by the Secretariat in a timely and predictably way as part of the capacity to deliver mechanism.

***2018 Results Snapshot***

Of the total of 22 requests for Technical Assistance received by MQSUN+ from SUN Countries, 19 requests were implemented in 2018 (86%) mostly in relation to reviewing policy and national plans, the development of a common results framework but also conducting the SUN annual budget analysis with extensive in-country support. Only 3 were not considered for technical assistance support for contextual reasons. The table below illustrates a summary of the country requests and current status.

***2018 Activities***

<b>MQSUN Technical Assistance Support through 2018 (status by January 2019)</b>		
<b>Country</b>	<b>Objective of the TA</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. Togo	Evaluation of National Strategic Plan for Food and Nutrition and development of new National Nutrition Plan and Policy	Implemented
2. Yemen	Revision and costing of Yemen’s multisectoral nutrition plan	Implemented, completed and closed
3. Madagascar	Development of a detailed scope of work, including costing to conduct a national micronutrient survey	Implemented, completed and closed

4. Tajikistan (Phase II)	Technical assistance to Tajikistan for operationalising the Common Results Framework through developing a Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan	Implemented
5. Kyrgyzstan	Support the development of a Common Results Framework, SUN Multisectoral Platform Strategy 2016-2020 and the next Food Security and Nutrition Programme	Implemented
6. Guinea Conakry	Review of key nutrition policies, identifying opportunities for scale-up of high-impact nutrition interventions and strengthen nutrition advocacy capacities	Implemented
7. Somalia	Facilitating a consultative process to develop a Common Results Framework and multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan	Implemented
8. Afghanistan	Development of a multisectoral Food Security and Nutrition Strategic Plan	Implemented
9. Sudan	Development of National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan, including support for: causal analysis; prevalence trajectory analysis; intervention impact projection; priority setting; and costing of the interventions	Implemented
10. Guatemala	Review process of Guatemala's Food Security and Nutrition Policy and regulation and Guatemala's Strategy for Prevention of Chronic Malnutrition	Implemented
11. Gabon	Assist Government in facilitating consultative process to develop a Common Results Framework	EOI preparation
12. Gabon	Support to conduct the budget analysis exercise with extensive in-country support and capacity building	Implemented, completed and closed
13. Mali	Support to conduct the budget analysis exercise with extensive in-country support and capacity building	Implemented, completed and closed
14. Central African Republic	Support to conduct the budget analysis exercise with extensive country support and capacity building	Implemented, completed and closed
15. Vietnam (private sector)	Strengthen the private sector's contribution to improved nutrition	EOI under preparation
16. Tanzania (private sector)	Private sector involvement in National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan	EOI under preparation

17. Madagascar	Development of TOR for conducting micronutrient survey	EOI under preparation
18. Yemen (Phase II)	Revision and costing of multisectoral nutrition plan	EOI under preparation
19. The Gambia	Support the development of a Common Results Framework	EOI under preparation

***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

The Secretariat will aim to find a strategic way forward to enhance the effectiveness of Technical Assistance (TA) provided to SUN countries through the SUN Support System (including identification of information gaps). Other key issues to consider include scalability, systematization practices and tracking systems for better knowledge management of TA requests/response.

The Secretariat increasingly received TA requests with a focus on non-technical issues, as a resort to seek catalytic funding, for example, for the establishment of a SUN Business Networks. The SUN Secretariat will need to consider these types of TA requests vis-à-vis country needs and ensure frameworks are clearly defined across the SUN global support system.

In addition, several informal requests that were received directly from countries to MQSUN+, but for which no formal request was ever received by the Secretariat. The Secretariat will institute guidelines to appropriately follow up on these informal requests.

***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- The Secretariat will continue to coordinate efforts to ensure effective and predictable responses from within the Movement to SUN countries’ requests for support so that they can accelerate efforts to scale up nutrition.

***Intermediate Outcome 3.3: Established technical secretariat in the Secretariat for management of possible new SUN Movement Pooled Fund***

***Activity Indicators***

- The Secretariat provides efficient support to a potential new SUN Movement pooled fund.

***2018 Results Snapshot***

Throughout 2018, the Secretariat coordinated the Technical Secretariat of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund (Pooled Fund). It liaised with UNOPS, the Executive Committee, the Consultative Group, the SUN Civil Society Network and SUN Countries for the implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals from Countries, preparation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals from Countries and worked on the business case related to the use of funding for Window II.

***2018 Activities***

***Successful Pooled Fund Structuring and Operation:*** The “go/no go” milestone of minimum annual budget of USD 3 million for the Pooled Fund to operate and ensure efficiencies of the project and economies of scale was reached in March 2018. By the end of 2018, the total estimated budget of the Pooled Fund reached USD 15.7 million, following contributions from Switzerland, Ireland, Canada, Germany and Norway. The budget for the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals (from countries) was USD 3.1 million. The estimated budget of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals is planned for USD 5 million. After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals, the funding balance for other activities under funding Window II (potential 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals) would amount at approximately USD 7.6 million.

In 2018, the Pooled Fund had one primary area for work, and thus one window (Window I) for funding: “*Strengthened participation by in-country non-state stakeholders (civil society, private sector actors, academics, and journalists, among others) and parliamentarians in national multi-stakeholder platforms to*

*implement scale up nutrition plans*". Focus for the first calls for proposals under this Window was on national civil society alliances to strengthen their participation in the national Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) and ensure a coordinated, aligned and effective national response to malnutrition.

In April 2018, the Secretariat together with UNOPS finalized the preparation of the 1st Call for Proposals under funding Window I. In accordance with the Pooled Fund Project Agreement, a competitive 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals was publicly posted in English, French, and Spanish on the UN Global Marketplace from 1 May to 11 June 2018. UNOPS received a total of 67 applications. Of those 67 applications, 28 passed the initial eligibility criteria and were evaluated by the Pooled Fund Grant Evaluation Committee, indicating an initial 40% success rate for applicant country networks.

The Grant Evaluation Committee considered each proposal in a two-step selection process. The first stage of the selection process reviewed the eligibility of the applicant and the compliance of their application. The second stage of the selection was a programmatic evaluation on the merits of the proposal, project activities, and project budget.

In total, in the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals under funding Window I, 21 grants were awarded to Civil Society Alliances from 19 SUN countries for a maximum budget of USD 114,000 per grant and an implementation period of 12 months. The activities of the awarded projects started in the second half of 2018. From August 2018, a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist has been accompanying grantees in the implementation and reporting of activities. The Secretariat together with UNOPS have been reviewing the first interim reports received from grantees in December 2018. The table below illustrates a summary of the grant recipients from Call 1.

<b>The Grants Awarded to SUN Civil Society Alliances in the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Country</b>
Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere International, Inc. (CARE)	South Sudan
Centro de Apoyo de Lactancia Materna (CALMA)	El Salvador
Concern Worldwide	Burundi
Concern Worldwide	Bangladesh
Save the Children Myanmar	Myanmar
World Vision Lanka	Sri Lanka
Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance of Liberia (SUNCSAL)	Liberia
Synergos Namibia Trust	Namibia
Save the Children in Papua New Guinea Inc.	Papua New Guinea
Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition In Nigeria	Nigeria
Eau Vie Environnement (EVE)	Senegal
Alliance of Civil Society for Nutrition and Food Security	Kyrgyzstan
Hunger Alliance of Ghana	Ghana
Addition for Disasters assistance and Development (ADD)	Sudan
Alliance Sahelienne de Recherches Appliquées pour le Développement Durable (ASRADD)	Chad

Centre Sahélien de Prestation, d'Etudes, d'Ecodéveloppement et de Démocratie Appliquée (CSPEEDA)	Mali
Talawiet Organization for Development (TOD)	Sudan
Alliance de la Société Civile pour l'Intensification de la Nutrition au Bénin (ASCINB)	Benin
Helen Keller International	Cameroon
African Network for the Prevention & Protection against Child Abuse & Neglect	Somalia (Region of Somaliland)
Peace Action Society Organization for Somalia (PASOS)	Somalia

In November 2018, the Consultative Group and the Executive Committee endorsed the proposal for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals under Window I. The Secretariat worked together with UNOPS on finalization of all the documents related to this 2<sup>nd</sup> Call. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals was launched on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018 with closing date 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019.

The aim of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals is to fund 20 additional SUN Civil Society Alliances. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals focuses on Civil Society Alliances that demonstrate the use of partnerships to achieve the objectives outlined in the national nutrition plans. Focus is on strengthening collaboration at country level between different networks through joint planning and collaboration on concrete activities.

In comparison to the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals, the maximum size of the grants in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals is not exceeding USD 200,000 (USD 114,000 in the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals) and the implementation period is extended to 18 months (12 months in the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals). The eligible applicants are strictly limited to chairs, vice-chairs or designated hosting entities of the Civil Society Alliances that has not received funds from first cycle of the Pooled Fund.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals will lead to a total 41 SUN Civil Society Alliances (out of a total of 46 SUN Civil Society Alliances) funded by the SUN Movement Pooled Fund for a total of approximately USD 8 million.

In July 2018, the Secretariat started to work on the proposal for the use of funding Window II. The funding Window 2 focuses on *“Increased effective sharing and learning opportunities within the SUN Movement to reinforce in-country capabilities of all SUN Countries”*.

After several consultations with donors to the Pooled Fund and the Consultative Group, the proposal for the use of Window II was finalized and shared with the Executive Committee for their endorsement during Executive Committee Retreat in January 2019. This proposal directly addresses strengthening of Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to deliver impact at sub-national level. Projects should be developed by the local Multi-Stakeholder Platform, under the direction of the SUN Movement Country Focal Point. The submission from the Multi-Stakeholder Platform should ensure funding is channelled to sub-national level where improvement of cooperation for greater impact is needed. A key feature of this approach is that it aims to build collaboration and partnership among the members of the local Multi-Stakeholder Platform for impact and scale-up particularly at sub-national level.

#### ***Difficulties (if any)– measures taken, changes and prioritisation in implementation***

At the beginning of 2018, it was still difficult to reach the minimum annual budget of the Pooled Fund that would ensure efficiencies of the project and economies of scale. As such, donors agreed that the project’s calls for proposals phase would not commence until after the cumulative value of all signed project agreements equalled or exceeded an agreed minimum annual budget milestone. The contribution of Canada from March 2018 facilitated the attainment of the minimum annual budget amount and therefore, it was possible to launch the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals in May 2018.

The process of finalization of grant agreements with grantees awarded in the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals was very lengthy due to difficulties related to opening of their bank accounts. These difficulties delayed the start of implementation of several projects. In specific cases, the non-cost extension of projects could allow the grantees to complete all the project activities despite the initial delay.

The grantees of the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals shared their requests for technical assistance related to their projects on regular basis through Monthly Monitoring Calls. Unfortunately, not all requests received in 2018 could have been processed in a timely manner. The Secretariat together with UNOPS will focus on addressing this issue in the upcoming period with the objective of connecting effectively and in a timely manner, all requests with technical assistance providers while using more potential from the SUN Networks.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals, the Secretariat together with UNOPS provided more time for preparation of the grant agreements and provided more detailed information related to bank account issues in order to avoid any initial delay of the implementation of project activities.

### ***2019 Year-ahead Targets***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals – successful finalization of the projects granted under the 1<sup>st</sup> Call for Proposals;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals - the evaluation of the project proposals will take place in February 2019 and the expected beginning of implementation of the projects is previewed for beginning of April 2019;
- Window II proposal – finalization of the proposal (based on the endorsement by Executive Committee on 29 January 2019), launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals and start of implementation of the projects in July 2019;
- Starting discussion on the next phase of the Pooled Fund beyond 2020.

## Annex I: Multi-year activity framework of the SUN Movement Secretariat (2016 – 2020) – updated June 2018

Primary Outcome	Intermediary Outcome	Outputs	Revised Set of Activity Indicators (June 2018)
<b>1 Improved accountability by all SUN Stakeholders to achieve the goals outlined in the SUN Strategy &amp; Roadmap</b>	<b>1.1 Increased capacity of SUN movement stewardship to fulfil their responsibilities to guide the movement.</b>	1.1.1 The Secretariat will support the Lead Group by organising its meetings, preparing the background documents and the notes for record and supporting the follow up and engagement of Lead Group members. The Secretariat will also develop a Lead Group engagement plan in line with the advocacy and communication activities described in the Roadmap.	One face-to-face meeting of the Lead Group during UNGA and four meetings of the Executive Committee organised and facilitated each year in accordance with established modus operandi; Lead Group engagement plan (advocacy strategy) finalised and implemented (see also Intermediate Outcome 2.2); Number of bilateral meetings / calls between Coordinator and Lead Group members; Number of SUN countries visits done by the Coordinator; Ethical Framework complete and up-to-date;
		1.1.2 Through its role in facilitating and coordinating activities across SUN Countries and the SUN Networks as set out in the roadmap, the Secretariat will ensure that members of the Executive Committee are fully in tune with the breadth and pace of developments across the Movement, enabling them to fulfil their responsibilities to support and guide the Coordinator and oversee alignment efforts in SUN Countries. The Secretariat will also support the Executive Committee by helping to organize its meetings and phone calls, preparing background documents and notes for record to facilitate follow up.	
		1.1.3 The Secretariat provides full support to the Coordinator including but not limited to: policy assessment and advice across major external debates and across the Movement; preparation of briefings, speaking points and strategic advice.	
		1.1.4 The Secretariat will develop, ensure the implementation and necessary updating of an ethical framework including a code of conduct, a register of	

		interest and transparency on process, membership and activity of the SUN Movement Stewardship	
	<b>1.2 Increased Use of the System for Monitoring, Evaluating, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system by all SUN Movement stakeholder for knowledge sharing and learning,</b>	1.2.1 The Secretariat will continuously, update, test and improve BRAIN, its information system, as its central tool for tracking and reporting developments across SUN Countries. This includes the maintenance of several dashboards that (1) track and report on SUN Country progress on the 4 SUN Processes; (2) track countries' requests and the support provided by the SUN Movement support system; (3) help countries' classification by geographical, economical and nutritional context; and (4) facilitate documentation of country experiences for knowledge sharing and learning.	Secretariat's Information System is up-to-date and used with annual Joint-Assessments to inform annual SUN Movement Progress Report; SUN Movement Annual Progress Report is complete, translated, published on SUN Movement website; >80% of SUN government focal points (or appointed representatives) participating in SUN global gatherings and >50% participating in regional gatherings and other face-to-face learning and sharing events
		1.2.2 Secretariat prepares and supports countries to undertake the annual Joint-Assessment of Progress and Priority Setting, based on the SUN Movement Monitoring and Evaluation Framework which was developed in 2013.	
		1.2.3 The Secretariat leads the drafting and coordinates the translation (in French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese) and printing of the SUN Movement Annual Progress Report and its Compendium of Country Profiles.	
		1.2.4 The Secretariat organises all aspects of the annual Global Gathering from the identification and management of the event venue, communication and information sharing, issuance of invitations, funding, visas, travel, accommodation and session content.	

		<p>1.2.5 The Secretariat will provide regular updates on activity and impact analysis to the Executive Committee and Lead Group to enable the guidance of the Movement and reinforce mutual accountability amongst its members. The Secretariat will also support the preparations and facilitation for a second independent evaluation to reassess the Movement’s relevance, efficiency and effectiveness in 2019 or 2020.</p>	
	<p><b>1.3 Better coordinated contribution of all SUN Movement stakeholders to the broader development agenda to improve its coherence and relevance for nutrition</b></p>	<p>1.3.1 The Secretariat tracks the agenda of international organisations and intergovernmental decision-making bodies to seize strategic moments of engagement for SUN Countries and Networks. This includes but is not limited to the Committee on World Food Security, the World Health Assembly, the High-Level Policy Forum for Sustainable Development and the United Nations General Assembly.</p> <p>1.3.2 To assist SUN Countries to engage, the Secretariat prepares and circulates accessible briefs to all SUN Country Government Focal Points, providing a summary of the key recommendations as well as information on the importance of issues up for debate and scrutiny. The Secretariat may also organise series of teleconference with SUN Countries if there is significant interest or perceived value in discussing the issues under consideration.</p> <p>1.3.3 Secretariat works to strengthen collaboration and forge new relationships with partners that will help accelerate progress on nutrition including Every Women, Every Child, the Sanitation and Water for All (SWA) Partnership as well as alliances working on climate change, women’s and girls’ empowerment, education, food system and agriculture, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.</p>	<p>Participation and active contribution of the Secretariat and Coordinator in key global events relevant to nutrition governance; Briefings are prepared and disseminated to SUN Countries on key policy issues and discussions; at least 3 new relationships are developed with key partners that can help accelerate progress on nutrition</p>

<p><b>2 Increased implementation and monitoring of nutrition multi-sectoral plans by coordinated stakeholders in all SUN Countries.</b></p>	<p><b>2.1 Improved access to and better use of resources for multi-sectoral plans for nutrition in all SUN Countries.</b></p>	<p>2.1.1 The Secretariat will ensure that the Networks and Communities of Practice support the enhancement of the utility of country multi-sectoral plan for scaling up nutrition impact. The Secretariat will especially support Movement-wide efforts to establish national nutrition targets and smart commitments to achieve these targets. It will also coordinate efforts to produce guidance on 'How to plan and cost nutrition-sensitive actions' as well as a synthesis of evidence on nutrition-sensitive interventions.</p>	<p>% of NEW plans reviewed by the Secretariat using the Quality Checklist (80% in 2017, 100% in 2018, 100% in 2019); % of budget analyses received from SUN countries that are reviewed by the Secretariat to inform advocacy efforts at global and country levels (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019); % of SUN countries doing their annual joint-assessment and linking it with monitoring of spending, implementation and results data (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019).</p>
<p>2.1.2 The Secretariat will ensure that the Networks and Communities of Practice support the improvement of country efficiency with which financial resources are used. Working with others the Secretariat will contribute to a growing body of information on financial tracking for nutrition through: the development of an online repository; contribution to the annual Global Nutrition Report; strengthening guidance for SUN Countries on financial tracking as well as coordination of the development of a guidance note on harmonised approaches to costing, budgeting, and expenditure tracking for nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities</p>			
<p>2.1.3 The Secretariat will ensure that the Networks and Communities of Practice support increased country access to finance for scaling up nutrition impact. In partnership with others, the Secretariat will coordinate the documentation of lessons learned in successfully influencing national and sectoral government budget cycles to increase access to domestic funding for nutrition</p>			

		<p>2.1.4 The Secretariat will ensure that the Networks and Communities of Practice support strengthened country use of disaggregated data from multiple sources for better policy decision making, accountability, and advocacy. The Secretariat will especially support SUN Countries with advanced information systems to share their experiences and lessons, especially on how information is collected, analysed and used at sub-national levels. The Secretariat will also ensure that national teams are trained on how to use the country profiles for policy decision making, accountability and advocacy.</p>	
		<p>2.1.5 The Secretariat will ensure that the Networks and Communities of Practice support the scaling up of implementation of high impact actions as per country plans. Working with partners, the Secretariat will especially develop a mechanism to support SUN countries to identify, review and present their implementation evidence with a focus on effective coverage, capacity of their platform and impact on select nutrition indicators.</p>	
	<p><b>2.2 Increased salience of nutrition as a top policy, financing and institutional priority by the SUN Movement at national, regional and global levels.</b></p>	<p>2.2.1 The Secretariat, with support from SUN Networks and technical partners, will develop and support the implementation of an advocacy strategy for the SUN Movement Coordinator and Lead Group. It will coordinate the establishment of communities of SUN champions, of journalists and of parliamentarians and engage youth platforms. The Secretariat will also map global data gap priorities and current investments and package finance data into robust investment cases for use in advocacy</p>	<p>% of SUN countries mobilizing nutrition advocates (high-level, champions, parliamentarians, media) [1] (50% in 2017, 60% in 2018, 70% in 2019); Increased access (website downloads) to digital and print communications generated by the Secretariat; as well as increased country stakeholder editorial</p>

		<p>2.2.2 With the SUN networks, the Secretariat will support the development, revision and implementation of national multi-sectoral advocacy and communication strategies as well as scalable behaviour change strategies and interventions. The Secretariat will lead on the mapping of Movement-wide social mobilisation, advocacy and communication (SMAC) assets, needs and modes or support. It will launch an online SMAC learning and sharing platform and support on-line discussions via EN-NET.</p>	<p>contributions (number of SUN website articles and publications), virtual learning exchanges (number of SUN Movement webinars and discussion forums), and uptake of advocacy resources (downloads of tools).</p>
		<p>2.2.3 The Secretariat will develop a SUN Movement communication strategy to ensure that rich country information and experience is made more widely available and will be utilized for more targeted advocacy. Building on successful SMAC approaches, capture key experiences and lessons in the annual SUN Progress Report (see 1.2.3) and strengthen media engagement with editorial meetings, story support and sensitisation sessions.</p>	
	<p><b>2.3 Strengthened functional capacities of individuals and institutions in all SUN Countries to collaborate effectively across sectors and between stakeholders to improve nutrition.</b></p>	<p>2.3.1 Working with others, the Secretariat will support the establishment of criteria to assess functional capacity levels as well as an agreed set of success factors for functional capacity strengthening. The Secretariat will also facilitate and coordinate efforts to develop functional capacity strengthening plans in SUN countries including support to revise pre-service nutrition program curricula, training and coaching.</p>	<p>Opportunities created for all SUN Countries who request support in strengthening functional capacities; &gt;80% of requests made by SUN countries for support to prevent and manage conflict of interest in their national nutrition plan or multi-stakeholder platform responded by the Secretariat, and/or Ethics Advisers, in a timely and satisfactory way which replaces previous indicator; efforts and investments in functional capacity strengthening are tracked and reported; % of SUN countries</p>
		<p>2.3.2 With partners, the Secretariat will support SUN Countries to improve multi-stakeholder platform design, management, functioning and decentralisation. The Secretariat will also lead the identification of incentives to strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration through, partnering with sectoral alliances, cross-country</p>	

		networking and experience sharing as well as the facilitation, production and dissemination of knowledge products	assessing that their MSP is functioning effectively, reporting scores in the joint assessment of 3 or higher on both progress markers 1.3 (how members engage with and contribute to the MSP) and 1.5 (whether the MSP has sustained political impact) (38% in 2016; 50% in 2017; 60% in 2018 and 70% in 2019)
		2.3.3 The Secretariat will encourage SUN Countries to develop mechanisms to manage and prevent conflicts of interest in the policy management cycle, and ensure that SUN Countries access the support they need for this.	
	<b>2.4 Increased attention by all SUN Countries to the most vulnerable populations, including women and girls, in the policy and budget management cycle</b>	2.4.1 The Secretariat will work with a team of experts to provide strategic guidance to SUN Countries for the inclusion of an equity focus to their advocacy and across the policy management cycle.	% of NEW plans received from SUN countries that are reviewed by the Secretariat using the Quality Check List with an equity (gender) focus (50% in 2017; 60% in 2018 and 70% in 2019); Lessons and concrete examples of applying an equity focus are complete and disseminated.
		2.4.2 With support from partners, the Secretariat will document lessons learned and concrete example of applying an equity focus to implementing nutrition actions.	
<b>3 Established system for timely and appropriate peer-to-peer exchange and technical cooperation for all SUN countries</b>	<b>3.1 Increased use by all SUN Countries of peer-to-peer exchange including on issues related to specific contextual challenges and opportunities</b>	3.3.1 The Secretariat will facilitate and document virtual and face-to-face exchanges among SUN Countries every quarter in relation to a theme of common interest to SUN countries. In addition, the Secretariat will organise, facilitate and synthesize the findings of exchanges amongst SUN Countries according to common socio-economic or geographic situations, specialised needs or capacity levels. This could include countries facing similar weather and environmental shocks, countries that belong to the same regional economic community and countries that share comparable challenges and opportunities in scaling up nutrition.	% of countries participation in quarterly country calls focusing on SUN Movement Strategy and Roadmap priorities (>75% in 2017, >75% in 2018 and >75% in 2019); The Secretariat also coordinates and facilitates discussions and exchanges related to specific contextual challenges and opportunities amongst SUN Countries and relevant experts as identified appropriate; Country call summaries and related publications (In Practice Briefs, Synthesis and Summary

			Reports) are increasingly downloaded from SUN website
	<b>3.2 Enhanced responsiveness and timeliness of technical support to all SUN Countries</b>	3.2.1 The Secretariat will coordinate efforts to ensure effective and predictable responses from within the Movement to SUN countries' requests for support so that they can accelerate efforts to scale up nutrition. This will be done by identifying recurring gaps and convening stakeholders to respond in a systematic, transparent and coordinated way.	At least 75 % of countries' requests are responded to by the Secretariat in a timely and predictable way as part of the capacity to deliver mechanism
	<b>3.3 Established technical secretariat in the Secretariat for management of possible new SUN Movement Pooled Fund</b>	3.3.1 If determined appropriate in the current visioning process, the Secretariat will continue to act as the technical secretariat for a new SUN Movement pooled fund, supporting the work of the trust fund's Management Committee, including the review of progress of approved projects as well as assessment and collation of lessons learned from the program and initiatives supported.	The Secretariat provides efficient support to a potential new SUN Movement pooled fund.