



Key

## messages

The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement is a country-driven initiative led by 61 countries and 4 Indian States. It is built on government ownership and the understanding that factors underlying nutrition are interconnected. It is critical to bring actors together for impact at scale.

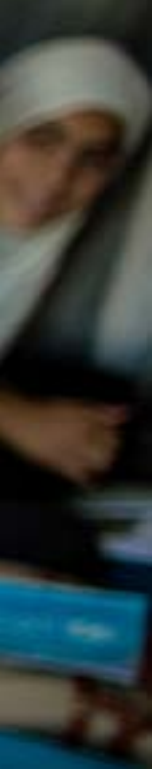
- Now in its ninth year, SUN Movement countries are supported by thousands of stakeholders including a **Civil Society Network of over 3,000 organisations; a SUN Business Network - including 600 small, medium, and large enterprises; 5 UN agencies representing the UN Network for SUN; and a group of international donors and foundations that form the SUN Donor Network.**
- **In 2019, Honduras** was the 61<sup>st</sup> country and **Madhya Pradesh** the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian State to join the SUN Movement.

### **We are at a pivotal moment for the future of the SUN Movement and the global nutrition agenda.**

- In 2018, a **Mid-Term Review** (marking the halfway point of the 2016-2020 SUN strategy) was completed, celebrating the creative thinking, energy and commitment of the Movement. In early 2019 a **Strategic Review was launched** to provide guidance on the next phase of the SUN Movement (2021-2025).
- Looking ahead, the SUN Movement will come together in Nepal (November, 2019) for its flagship event - **the SUN Global Gathering**. In 2020, the SUN Movement **will mark its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary**, SUN countries will make **SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timebound commitments at the 2020 Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit** and together we will **enter the decade of delivery with 10 years left to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**



Without adequate and sustained investments in good nutrition, the SDGs will not be realised.



**” Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ghana and Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Peru, Tajikistan are on track to meet the World Health Assembly stunting target.**

**We must preserve the gains made in ending hunger and malnutrition. This requires systemic transformation, with governments in the driving seat.**

It will take continued commitment and even greater action by governments for progress to continue to ensure structural change and sustainability of the nutrition agenda.

- The good news is that the prevalence of stunting amongst children under five years is decreasing and stunting has been reduced globally over the last 9 years from 171 million (2010) to 149 million children (2018).<sup>1</sup>
- However, overweight and obesity rates continue to increase in all regions.<sup>2</sup>
- Across the 61 SUN Movement countries, **approximately 95 million children under 5 suffer from stunting** and nearly 24 million children under 5 were wasted in 2018.
- **Many SUN countries are moving in the right direction** to improve children’s nutrition through effective and sustained multi-sectoral nutrition programming.

- **Countries in Africa and Asia continue to have the greatest share** of all forms of child malnutrition.
- Great progress has been achieved in Asia, where the number of stunted children decreased from 134.7 million to 81.7 million between 2000 and 2018.
- Among the **14 SUN countries in Asia**, an estimated 37.4 million children under 5 are stunted in 2018.
- Africa is the **only continent where the number of stunted children has risen** based on global trends, from 50.3 million in 2000 to 58.8 million in 2018. The SUN countries in the Africa region account for an estimated 55.1 million of the stunted children under five in 2018.

**SUN countries, partners and stakeholders are adapting their behaviours to end fragmentation, leave egos and logos behind, and work with Governments to lead an ambitious nutrition transformation. In 2019, SUN countries have many achievements to celebrate.**

- **58 SUN countries** completed the Joint Assessment (JAA) in 2019, a unique tool which allows countries to celebrate progress, identify challenges and solutions and set a course for the future.
- **55 SUN countries** have an **active multi-stakeholder platform (MSP)** at the national level.
- **42 countries** also work at **sub-national level**, supporting actions across sectors (agriculture, water and sanitation, health, social protection).
- **42 countries** have a **national nutrition plan** (also known as a Common Results Framework) which brings together sectors and stakeholders in a whole-of-government approach to address malnutrition. 9 more are in the process of developing or updating theirs.

<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated the data in this list is sourced from: UNICEF, WHO, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank. Levels and trends in child malnutrition: key findings of the 2019 Edition of the Joint Child Malnutrition Estimates. Geneva: World Health Organization: 2019. <https://data.unicef.org/resources/jme/>  
<sup>2</sup> The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the world (SOFI) Report 2019. FAO. <http://www.fao.org/state-of-food-security-nutrition/en/>

- **36 countries** have **developed action plans to achieve the goals** set out in their Common Results Framework (CRF). **30 have a monitoring and evaluation framework, with 12 more in development.**<sup>3</sup>
- **44 SUN countries** have **included at least one of the World Health Assembly nutrition targets** in their national nutrition policies or strategies.<sup>4</sup>
- **51 countries track public financial allocations** for nutrition.<sup>5</sup>

**SUN countries are engaged in important dialogues on food systems which nourish people and planet, gender and diversity and they stand ready to adapt and implement effective strategies in their country.**

- Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is vital for ending malnutrition.
- Food systems have the potential to nourish human health and support environmental sustainability; however, they are currently threatening both.
- Promoting diversity inclusion, gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment is at the centre of the SUN Movement's work to ensure no one is left behind.

**On the road to the Tokyo 2020 Nutrition for Growth Summit and the third phase of the SUN Movement, SMART commitments by SUN countries, stakeholders and partners will help unleash renewed ambition and usher in a new era for nutrition.**

- SUN members are ready to make bold, ambitious and measurable commitments which can help put the world on track to eradicate malnutrition in all its forms.
- **The 2019 SUN Global Gathering** is *the* opportunity for SUN countries to celebrate progress and to identify the actions required to **drive structural change for sustainable results. The flagship event of the Movement, this will be a key moment on the road to Tokyo 2020 and as a milestone towards the 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase of the SUN Movement (2021 – 2025).**
- The **Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit** (December 2020), **will be held** under the **auspices of the Government of Japan**. This will be **an historic opportunity to transform the way the world tackles the global challenge of malnutrition.**

<sup>3</sup> Based on a MEAL system review of national nutrition policies/strategies, supported by NI TAN project (completed in March/April 2019).

<sup>4</sup> Based on data provided by SUN MEAL system, 2019

<sup>5</sup> Based on data provided by SUN countries via the online SUN Movement Joint Annual Assessment, 2018-2019





**The SUN Movement was born from the collective recognition that the international system was failing to address under-nutrition** – the cause of nearly half of all deaths in children under five<sup>6</sup>. Evidence that stunting is irreversible and devastates children’s development and, therefore, the economic growth and stability of countries was a political call to arms. The [2008 Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Undernutrition](#) ignited stakeholders with evidence, the [Copenhagen Consensus](#) armed them with economic imperative and [Scaling Up Nutrition: A Framework for Action](#) outlined a multi-stakeholder plan of action – a call for unprecedented collaboration and impact at scale.

**Launched in 2010 by the UN Secretary-General, SUN is led by governments and driven by evidence and has today rallied 61 countries and four Indian States who are supported by the four SUN Networks.** Their commitment: to leave ‘egos and logos’ behind, to align efforts and work together to scale up nutrition during the critical first 1000 days from a mother’s pregnancy to her child’s second birthday. The 2013 Nutrition for Growth Summit and 2017 Milan Nutrition Summit fuelled political and financial commitment for nutrition on a global scale. The **2020 Tokyo Nutrition Summit is an opportunity to usher in a new era for nutrition.**

**SUN countries are breaking-down boundaries between sectors and stakeholders to develop a systems approach to nutrition.** The focus is on scaling up evidence-based cost-effective interventions to prevent and treat undernutrition. Each \$1 invested in proven nutrition programmes offers benefits worth \$16.<sup>7</sup> Stakeholders take a multi-sectoral approach by integrating nutrition into related sectors and using indicators of undernutrition as one of the key measures of overall progress across agriculture, social

protection and health and to cross-cutting issues like gender equality and governance. Country nutrition plans must be country-owned and built on the country’s ambitions, needs and capacities.

**SUN countries are driving forward a dramatic increase in high-level leadership for nutrition.** Political commitment and ownership at top levels are essential to a whole-of-government approach. SUN Government Focal Points, are strategically placed in government. Domestic investment is the true test of political commitment and ownership, and therefore Ministers of Finance, parliaments and civil society are key to ensure more and better investment for nutrition and accountability for progress.

**The Power of WE and leading from where you stand: Every stakeholder can do better, as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Climate Change moves into a decade of delivery.** The nutrition agenda must be owned by countries, driven by governments and supported by stakeholders who champion convergence, alignment and accountability for impact.

**Nutrition must be explicitly integrated in global and national initiatives** for climate change, agriculture and food security, water and sanitation, gender equality, social protection and universal health coverage to reduce fragmentation and ensure mutual wins.

**The SUN Movement Lead Group, Executive Committee, Secretariat and the four Networks support and guide countries in their mission to scale up impact and results.** The SUN Movement Principles of Engagement set the course for rising to the challenges ahead, and require everyone to demonstrate what they will do differently and additionally to eliminate all forms malnutrition.

6 Black, R., Victora, C., Walker, S., Bhutta, Z., Christian, P., de Onis, M., Ezzati, M., Grantham-McGregor, S., Katz, J., Martorell, R. and Uauy, R. (2013). Maternal and child undernutrition and overweight in low-income and middle-income countries. *The Lancet*, 382(9890), pp.427-451

7 International Food Policy Research Institute. (2016). *Global Nutrition Report 2016: From Promise to Impact: Ending Malnutrition by 2030*. Washington, DC. [online] Available at: <http://ebrary.ifpri.org/utils/getfile/collection/p15738coll2/id/130354/file/130565.pdf> [Accessed 15 June 2016].