

SUN Movement Global Gathering 2019
Executive Committee – SUN Country Focal Points Meeting
4 November 2019, 14:00-16:00 NPT, Yak and Yeti Hotel, Durbar Room
Summary Note

Participants

Executive Committee (ExCom)	SUN Government Focal Points
Meera Shekar (Chair)	About 90 Government Focal Points
Tumaini Mikindo (Vice-Chair)	
Rob Bertram	SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS)
Nicola Brennan	Brenda Killen
Lawrence Haddad	Morgane Daget
Abdoulaye Ka	Debora di Dio
Uma Koirala	Francisca Gomez
Lauren Landis	Ophélie Hémonin
Anna Lartey	Samantha Rudick
Asma Lateef	Marlen Schuepbach
Gladys Mugambi	Stephen Williams
Felix Phiri	
Tatjana von Steiger	Strategic Review Team
Fokko Wientjes	Deborah Rugg
Moin Karim (ex officio)	Gheeta Bhakta Joshi
Shawn Baker (ex officio)	Peninah Masibo
Gerda Verburg (ex officio)	

Apologies: Daysi De Márquez, Maria-Bernardita Flores, Aslam Shaheen

Agenda

- 1) Opening and welcome by Executive Committee Chair 5'
- 2) SUN Country Focal Points presenting outcomes from the Focal Point meeting 30'
- 3) Table discussions with Focal Points and Executive Committee members on: 45'
 - o Priorities for third phase of SUN Movement
 - o How Executive Committee can guide and support SUN Focal Points and local stakeholders
- 4) Discussion continued in plenary 40'

Key messages

- SUN Government Focal Points stressed the Movement must become more country-driven.
- It is critical to keep nutrition high on the political agenda.
- Capacities need to be strengthened at all levels in SUN Countries.
- Greater focus should be placed on capturing good practice and peer learning.
- Increased investment in nutrition is needed – Nutrition for Growth is a critical milestone, including for domestic resource mobilization.
- Data systems must be improved and harmonized.
- Connections between SUN Government Focal Points and SUN Networks should be strengthened, and Networks were encouraged to work more closely together.
- Focal Points expressed interest in regional support and exchange.
- Focal Points asked for more support from the Executive Committee and the SUN Movement support system, on a wide range of issues.
- Executive Committee members found the meeting with the Focal Points extremely useful to get valuable insights on priorities and challenges but also to learn about concrete recommendations what can be improved and how.

Action Points

Item	Timing	Responsible
SUN Focal Points were encouraged to speak with the Strategic Review team to share their views and insights.	Before 30 Nov	SUN Focal Points

Summary Note

1) Opening and welcome

The Chair welcomed all participants to this first joint meeting between SUN Government Focal Points and Executive Committee members. Participants decided to skip the group discussions (item 3) and use instead the time for discussions in plenary format.

2) SUN Country Focal Points presenting outcomes from the Focal Point meeting

Gladys Mugambi, SUN Focal Point Kenya and Executive Committee member, presented the main outcomes from the meeting the SUN Government Focal Points had in the morning where they discussed 1) country and regional priorities for the next year; 2) main challenges countries are facing to accelerate progress; 3) and the support they need from the SUN Movement Global Support System (GSS).

3) Table discussions with Focal Points and Executive Committee members on:

4) Discussion continued in plenary

There was big interest from Government Focal Points to build on the feedback from the morning session. About 25 SUN Focal Points shared their perspectives with members of the Executive Committee, who were mostly in listening mode, and the Strategic Review team observing the session. In their interventions they presented progress, challenges and reflections what can be improved in the next phase of the Movement. Focal Point inputs included the following areas:

Financing:

- Domestic finance for nutrition, national and local government
- Global nutrition financing mechanism(s) for SUN countries
- Better alignment of donors to national priorities
- GSS support for preparation of SUN country donor round-tables: advocacy for domestic resource, high-level participation, etc.
- Support setting up country SBNs and local resource mobilization to balance donor fatigue
- Resource tracking and accountability
- Accessing opportunities across sectors
- Variability of need for external support
- Nutrition for Growth – deep commitment, high expectations, assistance

Data collection, analysis & use:

- More data coherence also across sectors
- Disaggregation to better target
- More actionable indicators on coverage

Capacity building:

- SUN Focal Points – double duty (day job plus SUN coordination)
- Sub-national capacity
- Optimizing use of technical assistance

- Optimizing support of networks
- Community engagement/delivery

Advocacy, political positioning and strengthening nutrition governance:

- Institutionalize nutrition coordination above sectoral ministries
- Keep prioritization during political transition
- Engagement of parliamentarians
- Harness national election campaigns for nutrition advocacy
- Intensification of 'high-level' visits

Food systems / private sector:

- Nutrient profiling system(s)
- Reformulation
- Taxation of 'unhealthy' products
- Strengthen the message "prevention rather than treatment"
- More needed towards nutrition-sensitive agriculture and understanding that food security does not equal good nutrition

Regionalization:

- Bring Secretariat (network) support closer to countries
- Leverage regional economic communities
- Increase regional knowledge sharing
- Intensified regional advocacy

Accelerated implementation & decentralization:

- Strengthened local coordination and sectoral integration targeting furthest behind
- Increase coverage of nutrition (specific and sensitive) interventions (embed nutrition in primary care, workers' curricula, etc.)
- Redirect development partners financial support to local implementation
- Involvement of all administrative levels for effective advocacy
- Harness innovation and new technologies for strengthened local accountability

SUN countries in the SUN Movement

- Support peer-to-peer learning between countries
- SUN Coordinator high-level visits make a difference
- Would appreciate more personalized support by SMS
- Strengthen networks
- Plea for GSS support to countries reaching the resource mobilisation stage for the multisectoral nutrition plans (high-level advocacy, technical support by networks and institutions present)
- Expand availability of technical assistance

5) AOB

The Chair thanked all participants for the rich discussions and encouraged SUN Focal Points to meet with the Strategic Review team to share their insights. The meeting was adjourned.