

SUN Movement Global Gathering 2019
Executive Committee – SUN Civil Society Network Meeting
5 November 2019, 07:30-08:30 NPT, Yak and Yeti Hotel, Platinum Room
Summary note

Participants

Executive Committee (ExCom)	Civil Society Network (CSN)	SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS)
Meera Shekar (Chair)	Katherine Richards (Vice Chair)	Brenda Killen
Tumaini Mikindo (Vice Chair)	Andrew Rooke (CSN secr.)	Marlen Schuepbach
Rob Bertram	Cecilia Ruberto (CSN secr.)	Mairead Peterson
Nicola Brennan	Robyn Bright	Renée de Jong
Lawrence Haddad	Christine Campeau	
Abdoulaye Ka	Irshad Danish	
Uma Koirala	Connell Foley	
Lauren Landis	Meaza Getachew	
Anna Lartey	Christelle Huré	Strategic Review Team
Asma Lateef	Mathews Mhuru	Deborah Rugg
Gladys Mugambi	Christine Muyama	Donna Espeut
Tatjana von Steiger	Emma Feutl Kent	David Hales
Fokko Wientjes	Seydou Ndiaye	Geeta Bhakta Joshi
Shawn baker (Ex officio)	Kyoko Okamura	Peninah Masibo
Gerda Verburg (Ex Officio)	Sabina Rogers	Akim Dharmawam Skm
	Mariam Yiannakis	Susana Raffalli

Apologies: Moin Karim, Felix Phiri, Daysi De Márquez, Maria-Bernardita Flores, Aslam Shaheen

Proposed agenda

- 1) Welcome and introduction round 5'
- 2) Presentation by SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) 15'
- 3) Discussion between CSN representatives and Executive Committee members 35'
- 4) Summary and key take-aways 5'

Key messages

- The SUN Civil Society Network is an unmissable asset to achieve the SUN Movements objectives.
- In the transition to SUN 3.0 it is important to take into account how the CSN can be strengthened and supported in continuing its work.
- The CSN is an important voice which needs to be included in the Strategic Review.

Action Points

Item	Timing	Responsible
The Civil Society Network is invited to get in touch with the Strategic Review Team to provide input.	Before 30 Nov	Representatives from the Civil Society Network
Request to ExCom to champion civil society and ensure space for civil society voices in the SUN Movement and the broader nutrition arena.	ongoing	Executive Committee

Summary Note

1) Welcome and introduction round

The Executive Committee Chair welcomed all participants and suggested a brief introduction round. The agenda was adopted.

2) Presentation by SUN Civil Society Network (CSN)

The representatives of the SUN CSN presented the main achievements from 2019, which included the mobilization of functional regional coordinating bodies, successful advocacy for increased budget allocations for nutrition and the inclusion of nutrition within political party manifestos in SUN Countries. The CSN will further expand its work at subnational level and continue to connect and strengthen the capacity of civil society at country level.

In 2020, the priority will be to mobilize commitments at country level as well as their own commitments for the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G). The CSN strives to develop a refreshed strategy and to meaningfully contribute to the SUN Movement Strategic Review. Lastly, they strive to strengthen the capacity of CSO members to implement nutrition interventions. Key challenges the network experiences are the capacity gaps, the influence of power dynamics at country level, the challenges with developing a meaningful, inclusive dialogue on private sector engagement, effective collaboration with Nutrition Clusters in fragile and conflict-affected states and supporting innovative funding mechanisms. The CSN asked for support from the SUN Executive Committee by championing civil society, creating space for their voices, and defending CSN from attacks. Further, longer time frames were requested for providing inputs from Networks.

3) Discussion between CSN representatives and Executive Committee members

Other representatives of the CSN provided additional reflections on SUN 3.0 as well as input related to existing challenges. They repeatedly mentioned the need for capacity building of CSOs to enable them to be an equal player. This capacity is also needed in the context of the N4G Summit. Civil Society Alliances were encouraged to go beyond advocacy work and further advance implementation. CSN recognized the crucial importance of the SUN Movement Pooled Fund. At the same time the Network still faces continued challenges with lack of funding, especially for community-based organizations. The CSN would like the Executive Committee to ensure the Strategic Review process remains inclusive and there are opportunities throughout the process to provide input. Examples were presented how Civil Society Alliances have been collaborating regionally, however this requires additional resources. Lastly, stronger engagement with humanitarian work was requested to improve nutrition in fragile and conflict affected contexts.

The Executive Committee recognized the importance of the CSN and took note of the challenges the CSN had raised. The Chair ensured all SUN stakeholders still have the possibility to provide input to the Strategic Review until 30 November 2019.

4) Summary and key take-aways

The Chair summarized the key points, thanked all participants and closed the meeting.