

SUN Movement Executive Committee Call
19 October 2020, 15:00-17:30 CEST, Webex
Summary Note

Participation

Participants: Meera Shekar (chair), Azucena Dayanghirang, Rob Bertram, Cecilia Gamboa, Lawrence Haddad, Abdoulaye Ka, Christelle Huré, Lauren Landis, Anna Lartey, Asma Lateef, Jo Moir, Gladys Mugambi, Felix Phiri, Tatjana von Steiger, Fokko Wientjes, Shawn Baker, Moin Karim, Gerda Verburg

Apologies: Tumaini Mikindo, Kiran Rupakhetee, Victor Aguayo

Observer: Jonathan Tench, Christopher Twiss, Emily Henegan, Melanie Bruns, Purnima Kashyap, Yngvil Foss (UNOPS), Wahab Moez (UNOPS), Kyoko Okamura (WB), Illaria Schibba (WFP), Kellie Steward (USAID), Abigail Perry (FCDO), Ellen Barclay (SMS), Julia Daloisio (Editor)

Attending: Adam Leach (Facilitator – independent consultant), Jane Keylock (Facilitator – independent consultant)

Agenda

1. Introduction and AOBs for information
 - a. Update from Task Team on Secretariat 3.0
 - b. Next ExCom Meeting
2. Discussion of revised SUN 3.0 Strategy for agreement

Summary note

1. Introduction and AOBs

The facilitator welcomed all participants and thanked everybody for their efforts on the strategy for SUN 3.0. The Chair of the SUN Movement Executive Committee (ExCom) welcomed Ellen Barclay as Chief of Staff of the SMS and thanked Anna Lartey, Lauren Landis and Tatjana von Steiger for their work as ExCom members after their announcement to leave the Executive Committee by the end of December 2020. She reminded the committee of the next Executive Committee meeting (12th Nov) and the annual self-assessment in December in advance of the membership renewal process. It was agreed that renewal of the ExCom membership will be dealt with after the SUN 3.0 strategy is endorsed.

Update from Task Team on Secretariat 3.0

Fokko, as chair of the Executive Committee task team, presented the conclusion to continue hosting of the SMS with UNOPS as the preferred UN organisation. Donors do not support the SUN Movement to become an independent entity. Moving the SUN Movement to another UN Agency would not have greater advantage than the current hosting agreement with UNOPS and

would require additional cost and time for the relocation. UNOPS has developed new operating instructions and is close to an agreement with the task team on behalf of the SUN Movement. A Functional review of the SMS was discussed and will be agreed upon with the entire ExCom after the adoption of the new strategy by the Lead Group. A high-level functional review including the whole Global Support System will be part of this.

Key decisions and follow up:

- *The Executive Committee approved the recommendation by the Task Team on the Secretariat 3.0 to continue the hosting of the SMS by UNOPS.*
- *The Chair and Vice chair will submit an update on the SUN 3.0 Strategy development for the SUN Movement Newsletter to inform members of the Movement on the strategy development.*
- *An additional Executive Committee meeting is proposed for 11 December 2020 to discuss issues arising following the Lead Group meeting on the Strategy (agenda items to be considered include membership, chair and ToR for the Executive Committee).*

2. Discussion of revised SUN 3.0 Strategy

Executive Committee members thanked the writers of the strategy for their efforts and had the opportunity to flag key concerns about the current version of the Strategy. It was agreed that key concerns raised today with proposed revisions can be included. The external editor (Julia D'Aloisio, made available by UNICEF) will develop an edited version which will be shared with the Executive Committee in advance of their meeting the 11 November 2020. After that, the Strategy will be shared with Lead Group Chair and Lead Group for discussion and decision (7 December 2020).

Concerns were raised about the concept of the 'Country Coordinator'. Emphasis should be on the role and task of 'coordination' and institutional arrangements rather than a person/functional name and countries should be able to shape it based on what meets their needs and context. The proposed requirement that the focal point should be based in the financial/planning ministries of the government was questioned, as this is dependent on what is feasible for countries. There is agreement to strive for having a person responsible for nutrition at the highest *possible political* level. It was agreed that the language on 'Country Coordinator' needs to be clarified as not being prescriptive and that location, title and function have to be decided by each member country.

Other concerns were raised on the proposal for an additional Academia Network (or alternatively Women or Youth). Questions were raised about the potential value add (noting that this relates to evidence-based results) and the additional challenge for funding the networks. It was agreed that the additional network should be expressed in the Strategy as a matter for exploration and development and the initiation of new networks.

There was discussion about the inclusion of budget figures for the Global Support System (SMS and Networks (CSN, SBN, UNN, and SDN)) and concerns expressed about including budgets in a strategy and better included in an operational plan (with more realistic detail and standards). Following a proposal presented by Jo and based on consensus between SDN Executive Committee and GSS, the Executive Committee agreed to include illustrative, indicative cost figures and associated narrative. There was also agreement on using country examples to illustrate costs at country level.

Comments were made in regard of the Executive Committee ToR, membership, and the independent chair. One member suggested [chair from the donor network could lead to pressure on members who receive funding from that particular donor. Several members suggested need to build on the existing process to be inclusive, transparent, and rigorous to elect the Executive Committee chair. On the ExCom composition, it was emphasised that all networks should have equal representation. There was no conclusion on whether an additional youth member would be part of the CSN network and if the UNOPS seat is considered as a UNN member or merely an ex-officio member on behalf of the hosting agency. Caution was expressed about increasing the number of Executive Committee members above 25 members. It was agreed that the Terms of Reference for the Executive Committee, appropriate to the operationalisation of SUN 3.0, including a transparent appointment process for new members, should be discussed and agreed following the Lead Group meeting and in alignment with operationalisation.

Additional remarks and comments by Executive committee members included the following:

- Include the role of the SMS to liaise with the networks and that both the SMS and the networks should support ExCom members from SUN countries;
- Still too little emphasis on the progress made by countries with countries leading and networks who are already coordinating on a regional level and a focus on using what already exists;
- An update is needed on the Pooled Fund Section;
- More reference to the private sector, food systems and incorporate food fortification with nutrition sensitive investments;
- Coordination with the UN and UN Resident Coordinators at country level;
- Proposed text on the flow of the Theory of Change is welcomed but should not change the Summary of Strategic Objectives (original ToC).
- To be made clearer that the process of appointing Lead Group members is undertaken by the Secretary General's office, based on UN diversity criteria, however SUN Movement members can propose candidates through nominations process.
- Executive Committee members are invited to follow up with the facilitators to include textual changes in line with the above.

In conclusion the Executive Committee agreed to take the strategy for SUN 3.0 forward, including the above-mentioned changes in relation to the “Country Coordinator”, the Academic Network, the illustrative budget on GSS and the recommended textual changes. Further work will be done on the terms of reference of the Executive Committee, including the selection of an (independent) chair, appointment process for new members and the balance between representation on ExCom.

The independent facilitator thanked all ExCom members, noting special thanks for leadership in the process to the Working Group, Chair, writers and then closed the meeting.

Key decisions and follow up:

- *The Executive Committee agreed unanimously with the draft Strategy, taking into account comments made and agreed on-- the “country coordinator”, additional networks and the inclusion of illustrative budget figures and narrative.*
- *Executive Committee members who made suggestions for changes to the text are invited to send these to the independent facilitators as quickly as possible before the 22nd October 2020.*
