

# MAURITANIE

## SUN Country Summary | September 2012

**Mauritanie joined the SUN Movement May 2011**

*"Quant à la prise en charge des personnes qui souffrent de malnutrition (enfants, femmes, enceintes et allaitantes), le Gouvernement a poursuivi ses activités, dans le but de minimiser les effets néfastes de la malnutrition sur ces franges sensibles."*

**-Son Excellence Dr. Moulaye Ould Mohamed Laghdaf, Premier Ministre de la République Islamique de Mauritanie**

### MEASURING PROGRESS IN MAURITANIE

	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Indicator 4
MAURITANIE				

#### **Indicator 1:** Bringing people into a shared space for action (the multi-stakeholder platform)

Mauritania's **Convening Body**, the National Nutrition Development Council (CNDN), was created in 2010, and the **multi-stakeholder, multisectoral platform**, the Permanent Technical Committee (CTP), was put in place under its framework. The CTP is presided by the Prime Minister's Advisor in charge of Social Affairs and the Vice President assured by the Ministry of Health. All departments with a link to nutrition are involved in the platform, including seven ministries, two commissariats, UN System Organizations, the private sector and the civil society organizations. The platform is responsible for monitoring the execution of strategies and policies related to nutrition, and preparing the CNDN meetings.

The Director General (DG) of Economic Policies and Developmental Strategies in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Development, assisted by the Director of Basic Health and Nutrition in the Ministry of Health are the **SUN Country Focal Points**. The DG of Economic Policies and Development Strategies ensures that the work of the CNDN is consistent with national development policies and strategies such as the Poverty Reduction Strategic Framework, the National Social Protection Strategy, the National Food Security Strategy. The co-chairing by these two SUN Focal Points ensures that technical considerations on nutrition and health are fully taken into account by the broader strategic dimension of the MEAD.

There is currently **no identified Donor Convener** for Mauritania. UN System Organizations such as UNICEF, WHO, FAO and WFP support national plans and participate in the platform. The facilitation mechanism **REACH** has been present in Mauritania since 2008.

**International NGOs** are active and are members of the platform; however, national **Civil Society Organizations** specialized in nutrition are not sufficiently developed. The **private sector** is a member of the platform but its involvement in actual implementation is currently very limited. The academic sector participates in scaling up nutrition by teaching nutrition modules in schools and universities.

#### Indicator 1 Status: 2

#### Indicator 2: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

Mauritania has a National Policy for the Development of Nutrition with nutrition-specific provisions such as a National Strategy for Young Children (2007) and a National Protocol to tackle Chronic Malnutrition (2007). Mauritania is finalizing an multi-sectoral action plan for nutrition that will cover the period 2011-2015.

Nutrition-sensitive policies and strategies are updated and with a long-term vision until 2020. They cover most of the key sectors like agriculture and food security (Strategies for Rural Development and Food Security 2015/2020), poverty reduction and development (Strategic Framework for the Fight against Poverty 2011-2015), public health and social protection with national policies and strategies for health and social protection.

The national legislation with a bearing on nutrition covers agriculture and food laws (flour and oil fortification). The maternity protection law foresees 14 weeks of maternity leave therefore matching the minimum recommended length (ILO). The implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes (BMS) is currently being studied.

#### Indicator 2 Status: 4

#### Indicator 3: Aligning programmes around a Common Results Framework

The programme for the **Acceleration of the Fight Against Hunger and Malnutrition in Children in Southeast Mauritania** started in 2009 and is projected to end in 2013. It is managed by the Ministry of Health and aims to reduce the prevalence of underweight children between the ages of 6 to 59 months from 40% to 24% as well as decrease the proportion of food insecure households from 44% to 36%.

Mauritania also maintains a **Social Protection Programme** aimed at pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 years, the **EMEL Programme** covering the all country under the Prime Minister's Office which provides assistance to all vulnerable populations, the **Fight Against Malnutrition** Programme, and the **WASH Community Sanitation** Programme. WASH is managed by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, and aims to improve hygiene practices in six Regions.

#### Indicator 3 Status: 2

#### Indicator 4: Financial tracking and resource mobilization around a Common Results Framework

Within the Strategic Framework for the Fight against Poverty (CSLP) a full component is dedicated to the multi-sectoral approach for improved nutrition. Each sector considers certain nutrition activities and

actions in its budget, but there is not yet a specific budget line for nutrition. Existing efforts support advocating for the creation of a Governmental budget line for nutrition. Mauritania's partners play a primary role in the development of nutrition. Donors are involved in emergency nutrition interventions and contribute to development. Since 2008, an increase in these actors has been observed.

The programme for the Acceleration of the Fight Against Hunger and Malnutrition in Children in Southeast Mauritania has a total estimated budget of 7.5 million dollars but there is an agreed financial gap of 14 million dollars. The EMEL Programme has a budget of 150 million dollars, 80 million of which are from the overall government allocated budget. This programme also has a financial gap of 70 million dollars.

**Indicator 4 Status: 2**