
SUMMARY NOTE

12th Round of SUN Country Conference Calls
27th – 31st January 2014

The twelfth meeting of SUN Movement countries was held from January 27th – 31st 2014. For logistic reasons and time zones, nine calls were planned for countries in the following geographical areas: Anglophone Asia I, Anglophone Asia II, Anglophone Africa I, Anglophone Africa II, Anglophone Africa III, Francophone I, Francophone II, Francophone III, Hispanophone I.

Each teleconference followed the same agenda. The present note is a synthesis of all teleconferences.

PARTICIPANTS: Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Congo DR, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Conakry, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Emorn Wasantwisut, N. K. Sethi, Bibi Giyose, SCN, REACH, SUN Movement Secretariat.

Myanmar, Rwanda, South Sudan, Vietnam and the Indian State of Maharashtra were not able to participate.

AGENDA: the three areas for discussion were: 1) thematic discussion on Information Systems for Nutrition; 2) an update by countries of progress with regard to the four SUN indicator processes; and 3) information about major priorities for the SUN Movement Secretariat in 2014.

1) THEMATIC DISCUSSION : Information Systems for Nutrition

This teleconference included the second thematic discussion between countries. The theme for this call was “Information Systems for Nutrition: data collection, analysis and reporting”. Country Teams were asked to respond to the following questions:

- Does your Government have predictable and regular access to the information needed to decide how to enable all people to enjoy good nutrition?
- If not, what plans do you have to strengthen your information systems – focusing particularly on data collection, analysis and reporting?
- What are the links between information systems for nutrition and those for health, food security and vulnerability?

Summary points

- Almost all countries access nutrition-relevant data through **national health and nutrition surveys** such as Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS). Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) surveys are common but scale and frequency varies considerably across countries. West African countries, especially the Francophone ones, implement national-scale SMART surveys on an annual basis. Other countries implement area-based SMART surveys mostly linked to emergency nutrition response.
- **Micronutrient national surveys** are less common and do not appear to be implemented on a regular basis.
 - Few countries have managed to integrate screening for micronutrient deficiencies as part of DHS and MICS.
- Most countries implement **surveys relevant to nutrition** as they collect data in the domain of agriculture, food security, household consumption and vulnerability. However, it is difficult to triangulate their findings with nutrition data given that there is no coordination in terms of time and scale of different surveys being implemented.
 - Some countries have mentioned the need to coordinate the implementation of all relevant surveys so that results can be usefully analyzed across sectors. Few countries have specifically mentioned the need to integrate nutrition indicators in food security surveys.
- All countries report having **health management information system** in place that collect data at facility level. However, the integration of nutrition data appears to be a major weakness.
 - **Monitoring of severe acute malnutrition treatment** is widespread in all countries implementing Therapeutic Feeding Programs (TFP). This is understandable because of the need to ensure continuous supply. However, it is less clear how the monitoring of TFP is integrated in the health management information systems. It appears that in most countries, it is run in parallel to the government system.
- Only few countries do have **community level systems** and most of them reported issues with data quality.
 - Few countries mentioned child register at community level. This option could be further explored.
- Many countries mentioned the use or ambition of establishing **surveillance systems**, mostly at facility level. Functioning surveillance systems appear to be linked to public health emergency or early warning. Some countries reported using SMS mobile technology to monitor the increase and caseload of acute malnutrition.
 - More discussion is required to better understand the desired features and effectiveness of surveillance systems and especially the meaningful use of SMS mobile technology.
- Most countries report the existence of **information systems in sectors relevant to nutrition** including water supply, food security and agriculture, education (formal), social protection and meteorology.
 - Few countries appear to have a clear idea of what to do with information available from other sectors. More work is required to better understand at what level the information should be aggregated to be useful for the analysis. Considerations on timing and scale (level of disaggregation) of data need to be taken into account when looking at **cross-sectorial analysis**.
- Many countries appear to be relatively satisfied with the **availability of information** and with the **variety of data sources** that are in place.

- There remains a need to better understand what information and data sources are available beyond the health and nutrition-specific domain. On this regards, the SUN Movement Secretariat will conduct a rapid survey monkey in the coming month.
- Some countries have mentioned the need to improve the data quality and flow within the existing information systems, mostly at health facility and community level.
- Majority of countries appear to be struggling with **what to do with all the available information and how to analyze it in a meaningful way**. Immediate priorities appear to be:
 1. The need to reach **consensus on a common results framework** to facilitate monitoring and evaluation across sectors and inform decision making at different levels. Stakeholders need to identify and agree on a set of indicators available from existing data sources and analyzed as required.
 2. The need to **harmonize the timing and scale of different data sources**. Implementation of surveys need to be coordinated to ensure that timing (seasonality) and scale (e.g. district, agro-ecological areas) are comparable. This is key for the analysis of findings against nutrition outcomes. The same applies to the need for collating and analyzing data from different routine information systems taking into account that changes in the nutrition status (especially wasting) are sensitive to seasonality and agro-ecological factors.
 3. The need to **decentralize capacity to collect, collate and analyze data**. The identified set of indicators needs to be understandable at local level. Several countries have mentioned the desire to improve the capacity at community and district level. This should be encouraged because tracking of nutrition changes is most meaningful when it is analyzed in context.
 4. **Integrate nutrition indicators in information systems**. Some countries have mentioned the desire to integrate nutrition indicators in early warning systems or food security surveys. While this can be seen as a practical solution, careful consideration is required on establishing who will be responsible to collect and analyze the nutrition data. This is particularly important to ensure the quality of anthropometric measurements.

2) COUNTRY PROGRESS:

Countries provided a quick update on progresses experienced during the last two months with regard to the 4 process indicators (see Annex) ; focal points were selective and concise in their responses, highlighting one main progress recently achieved. See country tables and minutes for details.

PROCESS INDICATOR 1

- **SUN launches or high level events with emphasis on nutrition:** *Bangladesh* is hosting a multi-stakeholder workshop in March and a workshop in February with UN agencies and donors. *Pakistan* organized a SUN launch and a workshop. *Niger* organized a social protection forum in last November. On this occasion the Government and the World Bank committed to implement a nutrition and social protection program. Provincial meetings to sensitize the local authorities are planned to be held in 2014 in *DRC*. *Nigeria* intends to launch the SUN Movement in the first half of 2014. *Malawi* will organize a joint annual review, a learning forum, and will disseminate results of nutrition research. *Tanzania* is planning to organize a big meeting in February chaired by the PM for regional and district commissioners. *Uganda* organized a Nutrition Forum in December 2013, which included a stocktaking on progress to date counted with participation from all stakeholders, who renewed commitment and agreed to report regularly on progress. *Peru* will launch in February a fund to

stimulate good performance and achievement of results, which will prioritize 12 regions in the country.

- **UN Network and REACH Initiative:** *Chad* visited Mauritania in January to learn on the REACH initiative. UNICEF is leading the UN Network in *DRC and Cameroon*. UN agencies are in process of finalizing new UNDAF in *Kenya* and trying to bring on various UN agencies that will be and are supporting nutrition sensitive strategies
- **Civil society engagement in the SUN multi-stakeholder platforms:** *Kyrgyz Rep.* organized a meeting in December 2013 to establish 2 CSO networks to support nutrition which are now working on their action plan. A civil society Network is being established in *Pakistan*. *Chad, Cameroon and Pakistan* are mobilizing Parliamentarians within the discussions of the platforms and to advocate on nutrition at all levels. A civil society alliance being established in *Sri Lanka* and local medical people are closely getting integrated in the action plan. *Nepal* identified CSOs working on nutrition specific interventions and nutrition sensitive approaches at the national level, enlisted them and had a consultation meeting with them to establish a civil society alliance. The meeting came with ad hoc decision on action plan, TOR, and the process will go ahead. Nepal is working to build an academic platform. *Madagascar* launched the Civil Society Platform and will organize a meeting in mid-February to set up an academic platform. *Niger* set up a civil society platform. A Civil Society platform has been established in *DRC*. In *Cameroon*, the Civil Society is organized around HKI and while ToRs are being prepared as well as an implementation roadmap. The Civil Society is being organized in *Senegal*. A Civil Society Alliance was established in December 2013 in *Mozambique*. In *Sierra Leone* the Civil Society Platform, which will benefit from MPTF grant, will be engaged in rolling out scaling up nutrition into districts and villages. World Vision will be bringing together different CSOs in the Civil Society Alliance in *Kenya*. *El Salvador* has strongly advanced in engaging civil society in the SUN Movement in the country through the agreement of a project to develop a Civil Society Alliance which will be funded by the MPTF. An initiative to strengthen a civil society alliance will also be funded by the MPTF in Peru, where it will further advocate for keeping food security and nutrition as a political priority.
- **Bringing the private sector into the multi-stakeholder platforms:** The private sector is working with the Government in *Pakistan* and a private sector Network is being established. *Madagascar* set up the private sector platform and a meeting will be held on February 5th to define the activities to be implemented. *Niger* would like to receive ToRs for implementing a private sector platform. *Cameroon* will organize a meeting with the private sector in March. *Tanzania* is advancing in involving business and has organized in January a meeting with GAIN to discuss business' contribution to nutrition in the country (will share summary when proceedings are out). Private The private sector is engaged in *Guatemala* in scaling up salt iodization and fluoridation (in those geographic areas in which 2012 surveys reported deficiencies) and flour fortification.
- **Improved Donor coordination and alignment:** UNICEF and USAID are Donor conveners in *Tajikistan*; the European Union is Donor Convener in *Chad*. A Donors' platform has been established in *DRC*. *Mauritania* would like to receive examples from other countries to mobilize donors active on nutrition. The DPG (Development Partners Group) in *Tanzania* will support, in early 2014, efforts to harness data in a way that can inform planning. El Salvador is strengthening relations with donors supporting nutrition and food security (AECID, FIDA, Regional Programme for Information Systems, the EU funded Regional Food Security and Nutrition Programme, etc.)
- **Engaging Parliamentarians:** *Malawi* is planning a high level meeting with parliamentarians to promote their engagement in nutrition
- **Bringing all sectors into multi-stakeholder platforms and strengthening bodies in charge of support to coordination of national scaling up nutrition efforts:** the multi-stakeholder platform in

Indonesia is formalized; Presidential Decree endorsed and launched by the President on 31st October with more than 3,000 stakeholders from different Ministries and groups. *Laos* is working on strengthening multi-sectoral mechanisms: a national committee has been established, a secretariat has been nominated and a core team engaging 5 sectors to support the secretariat and the national committee has been formed. *Tajikistan* is establishing a multi-stakeholder platform using the existing MCH coordinating committee and has set a focal point (the Deputy Minister of Health). *Nepal* established MSP working groups on: M&E (with support from UNICEF and the Natl. Planning Commission), capacity, management information systems and advocacy. The *Benin's* multi-sectoral platform (CAN) is now operational. The first meeting of the multi-sectoral platform in *Burkina Faso* was held in December 2013. *Burundi* has set up technical working groups of the MSP and appointed focal points for each of them. A decree for the creation of a steering committee of the platform is being adopted. *Guinea and Burundi* are being developed a cartography of the stakeholders. *Côte d'Ivoire* is organising consultations with different stakeholders to involve them in the platform which is being established. A first draft of the decree for the establishment of the platform has been shared with the stakeholders in a meeting at the end of last year. In *DRC*, a Decree for the implementation of the platform was also submitted in 2013. *Zambia* has been putting in place mechanisms MSPs in the last 2 months. Nutrition focal persons have been appointed in 9 ministries in *Tanzania*; they focus their work in mainstreaming nutrition in sectoral planning. *Uganda* plans to set up a committee that represents government departments and academics as well as Nutrition Community Group to raise awareness and behavioural change (hygiene, sanitation, nutritional value). The establish a high level multi-stakeholder platform/coordinating group in 2014 in Office of President seems promising in *Kenya*. *Guatemala* has created a new ministry for primary health care. An inter-sectoral agreement has been signed in *Peru* to promote early child development by representatives of the three levels of government and from different sectors. In that country a temporary inter-sectoral commission formed by different Ministers has been formed to promote proper early child development and adequate funding in the 2015 budget. **Campaña nacional para la promoción del desarrollo infantil temprano (Papeado y Papacheado) entra en la segunda fase. Asociación público-privada con una radio, con mensajes sobre alimentación y con mapeo;**

- **Setting up MSPs at the decentralized level:** Regional Platforms for 3 northern regions are up and running in *Ghana*. 14 out of 28 countries in *Malawi* count with coordination structures, has developed a “nutrition kit” for new MPs and traditional leaders, and is training traditional leaders on nutrition. *Guatemala* foresees to develop capacities and consolidate coordination between ministries at the local level

PROCESS INDICATOR 2

- **Taking stock of national nutritional legislation and assets:** Prime Minister’s Office in *Kyrgyz Republic* is developing food security and nutrition strategies across sectors and organized a round table to agree on how to do this. Nutrition is now a priority area in maternal and child health. *Pakistan* is preparing a situation analysis; a 5 year-plan for nutrition and an agricultural and food security policy has been drafted. *DRC* validated and disseminated its national nutrition policy. *Cameroon* is developing a multi-sectoral roadmap for reducing chronic malnutrition. *Côte d'Ivoire* is revising its national policy; the ToRs were presented to the different stakeholders. *Guinea* is reviewing its Food and Nutrition Policy. *Comoros* plans to revise its Food and Nutrition National Policy with the purpose of make it more multi-sectoral. A new development strategy is being developed and may include nutrition indicators. *Madagascar* is developing a National Health Development Plan. *Niger* is advocating for the adoption of several strategic documents, in particular the National Nutrition Policy.

Congo Brazzaville is finalizing its strategic framework to fight malnutrition. *Zambia* is developing a social protection policy with nutrition outcomes. *Swaziland* is in the process of finalizing the Food and Nutrition Policy as well as the Public Health Bill; technical support/guidance requested to ensure these are passed into law and adopted by cabinet. *Ghana* has completed its Nutrition Policy. *Malawi* wants to finalize the national nutrition strategy, the nutrition plan and the micronutrient policy, is finalizing and will soon be launching the Nutrition Policy and is reviewing IYCF and NCD guidelines; the country is making progress in the elaboration of the Nutrition Act. *Tanzania* is reviewing its national Food and Nutrition Policy. School Health Policy Guidelines are now in place in *Uganda* as well as School Feeding Guidelines.

PROCESS INDICATOR 3

- **Development of Common Results Frameworks:** *Mauritania* organized a national workshop to finalize its inter-sectoral action plan 2014-2020. *Burundi* organized also a workshop to sensitize on the multi-sectoral plan and is working on costing it. *Mauritania and Cameroon* asked for support to cost their multi-sectoral plans. *Indonesia* is waiting for assistance from MQSUN for costing the plan. *DRC* is working with the World Bank to cost its multi-sectoral Plan. *Guinea* is working with a consultant funded by WHO to develop and cost the multi-sectoral action plan. *Tajikistan* is working to develop and cost an action plan involving different sectors. Costing of the plan is planned in *Niger* in early 2014. A workshop on costing will be organized in *Benin* next October. *Congo Brazzaville* is asking for support to develop its Action Plan. *Laos* will have draft for costing their action plan, will work in the development of a detailed operational plan and micro plans down to district and community levels and will have a meeting in February. 3 key sectors have been asked to align the convergent plan to their sectoral plans e.g. health sector is reviewing the government budget for this and next fiscal years; *Ethiopia* is advancing on the development of a capacity building framework and of sectoral scorecards. *El Salvador* has developed a draft Capacity Development Strategy linked to the multi-sectoral Food & Nutrition Security Action Plan.
- **Decentralization of national plans at provincial level:** *Madagascar* adopted a decree to decentralize the regional nutrition councils and the M&E regional groups. In *Nepal*, district focal points are being trained on development planning at district level, which includes programming, adapting M&E systems and undertake appropriate costing and budgeting for the multi-sector nutrition plan. *Laos* will decentralize MSP to district level after the next national committee meeting. *Mozambique* has approved nutrition plans in 2 provinces with plan approved by end of last year while another 3 provinces are in the process of developing their plans. *Zambia* will focus on implementation of their plan at the district level in 2014.
- **Rolling out/implementing scaling up nutrition:** *The Gambia* is scaling up severe and acute MAM interventions, as well as other ones that improve household consumption of iodized salt. In *Uganda*, Cornell University will support ‘strategic capacity building, adaptive management’, while a stakeholder mapping and a capacity needs assessment has been conducted in 33 districts.
- **Integration of nutrition into national development plans:** the Technical Working Group in *Mozambique* had a planning meeting in November-December 2013 with technicians of different sectors to make sure nutrition-sensitive interventions are included in the national social and economic plan.

*** [more information on M&E and the information systems within Part 1 and in the minutes](#)***

ADVOCACY and COMMUNICATION:

Madagascar is setting up a communication nutrition platform (transformation of the Communication Commission). *Haiti* organized an advocacy workshop last December with the private sector and civil society. *Mozambique* is finalizing its Communications Strategy and is ready to roll out its advocacy strategy. *Uganda* will hold meeting to finalize BCC and Social Mobilization strategy to be linked with draft Advocacy Strategy and hope to have functional strategy by March. *El Salvador* has developed a draft Advocacy & Communications Strategy and asks for a quality review. The communications campaign for the promotion of early child development “Papeado y Papacheado” is entering its second phase in *Peru*; it is a public-private partnership with a radio and provides messages on good feeding practices.

PROCESS INDICATOR 4

- **Financial tracking and resource mobilization:** *Madagascar* is negotiating a new financing of 10 million USD with the WB for supporting the following sectors: Nutrition, Education and Health. *Burundi* has hired a consultant to discuss with the donors at country level. *Benin* finalized negotiations with the WB for a cross-sectoral project on food, health and nutrition (of 28 M\$). The Government in Benin doubled the budget of the CAN. A Donors meeting will be held in 2014. In *Burkina Faso*, a new financing mechanism will be set up with the aim of improving efficiency. *Mali* has got a specific budgetary line for nutrition and WASH activities and *Cameroon and DRC* are advocating at high political level to obtain a specific budgetary line for nutrition. In *Yemen*, a social fund for development has been initiated with the World Bank. *Indonesia* is mobilizing extra resources from the government, development partners and public private partnerships. *Laos* advocated for convergent action in high level meeting in November to get support from government and international agencies for implementation of action plan. By end of March, *Zambia* will have signed allocation of funds. Its SUN fund is already in implementation phase, and has launched a call for proposals to be completed by CSO, business, and other stakeholders. *The Gambia* will request support on financial tracking. *Sierra Leone's* challenge will be to access funds after the validation of the nutrition implementation plan. *Guatemala* is focusing efforts on budgeting 1000 days window interventions of the Zero Hunger Plan. The country is tracking funding and execution of interventions of the Zero Hunger Plan, both from ministries and from external sources.

3) Information about MAJOR PRIORITIES for the SUN Movement Secretariat in 2014:

LEARNING ROUTES

- The SUN Movement Secretariat has recently **finalized the process to select 12 SUN countries** to participate in the pilot learning initiative that will be organized jointly with PROCASUR, an organization specialized in the promotion of knowledge sharing and learning.
- **The selection is the result of matching priorities for learning (and good practices for sharing)** on multi-sectoral approaches to nutrition. These have been expressed by Focal Points in SUN countries

in response to an on-line survey which sought information on priorities for knowledge/learning needs and whether countries have good experiences they wanted to share.

- **Two learning routes will be organized:** the first one in Peru the last week of April and the second one in Senegal the last week of May. They **will focus on “multi-stakeholders coordination and implementation of inter-sectoral approaches”**, one key area that many suggested as a priority for learning.
- Participants from Benin, Burundi, Niger, Ghana and Sierra Leone will join the Route in Senegal; Participants from Guatemala, Tanzania, Madagascar, Sri Lanka and Laos will in the route in Peru.
- This is a **pilot experience which, if it is successful and additional funds can be mobilized, could be repeated** with more countries and focus on other thematic areas.

CAPACITY TO DELIVER

- The SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) is **seeking to match the defined needs for support of countries** in the SUN Movement **with know-how and other support made available both through the SUN Networks and other sources**. This mechanism supports the building of capacity to deliver within countries in situations where there are insufficient in-country sources of support.
- **Focal points have identified four areas of capacity to be developed:** (a) **Advocacy & Communication;** (b) **Planning and costing, tracking expenditure and mobilizing resources;** (c) **Monitoring progress and & Evaluating Impact;** (d) Management of Implementation
- For each of these four areas of capacity, the Secretariat aims to align external supply to countries requests for support. The alignment generally consists of: **definition of the area; convening of potential supporters; establishment of a Community of Practice to provide support effectively**. Some of this work is already underway.
- **Defining demands and scoping supply:** Requests for support made by country teams through SUN Country Network teleconference calls and sessions at the SUN Global Gathering, are specified in greater detail through bilateral phone calls involving the SMS and country focal points. These calls are also able to identify countries that are already well advanced and could provide country-to-country support.
- **Bringing together demand and supply:** The Secretariat attempts to bring together demand and supply around specific thematic areas. **Convening workshops** that bring together country focal points and potential sources of supply have multiple benefits (opportunity for the countries to present their progress, gaps and needs; opportunity for country-to-country learning; opportunity for potential suppliers to understand specific needs and how responses would need to be tailored to these needs). (e.g. UNICEF/SUN workshop on costing of plans in Nairobi in November 2013). (e.g. Advocacy and Communication, a series of convening workshops are proposed before individual support is activated).
- **Formalizing arrangements and forming communities of practice:** Sources of supply are assembled in the form of a Community of Practice. These would bring together a range of different expertise and skills in support of each area. **Four Communities of Practice are being formed.**

ASSISTING COUNTRIES TO PREVENT AND MANAGE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- I would like to **thank the countries that have to date participated in consultations around** Conflict of Interest in the SUN Movement: this work has been led by the Global Social Observatory (GSO). (Focal Points from Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and other colleagues from Myanmar Uganda and Nepal have been engaged).
- A **draft Reference Note** is currently being refined and a **toolkit** with practical examples of tools and best practice is being developed.
- It is envisaged that during the next stage of the process, the GSO, with the SMS, will organise **“Enhanced Learning” in SUN countries**. It is expected that four learnings will take place during the course of 2014/early 2015. These will happen in East Africa, West Africa, Asia and South America.
- The purpose of these learnings would be to have an in depth discussion on experience at country level, capture and share learning, and refine the Toolkit.
- **GSO and the SMS** will work in the coming weeks on planning and **will be in contact with more information throughout the year**.
- **If there are any countries interested in reviewing the draft toolkit** we would be happy to share it with them for comments (*available only in English at this point*).

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE SUN MOVEMENT

- **The SUN Monitoring and Evaluation Framework was developed in 2013** with input from all stakeholders in the Movement, including SUN countries.
- The M&E Framework is the **basis for “regular monitoring”** of the SUN Movement to assess progress against the four SUN processes.
- The M&E Framework tracks transformations across all SUN stakeholder groups – countries, civil society, business and development partners (donors). **The results of this monitoring forms the basis for the annual SUN Progress Report**.
- We are about to commence the **2014 SUN M&E exercise**. This will involve each country assessing its progress against the various progress markers within the framework over the previous 12 months. Last year this was done through an on-line survey by countries and networks separately.
- In 2014 **we will be asking each multi-stakeholder platform**, led by the SUN Focal Point, **to undertake a joint review exercise** (one day workshop) to discuss progress and challenges against the framework.
- **The SUN Secretariat**, with some technical support from M&E experts, **will follow-up with more detailed background** and individual support to each Focal Point in the coming months to ensure a successful review.

VISIONING THE FUTURE OF THE MOVEMENT

Context:

- In September 2013, the **SUN Lead Group called for an independent evaluation of the Movement**, echoing the 2012 Strategy and Road Map.

- The purpose of the evaluation is to **ensure that the Movement remains relevant and fit for purpose and is providing the support SUN countries require to meet their own commitments to scale up nutrition**. It is not an evaluation of SUN governments, but will assess the effectiveness of the Secretariat, the Networks and the Lead Group in marshalling assistance.
- The evaluation will ‘**assess the effectiveness with which the Movement is functioning**’, ‘**the context within which the Movement is evolving**’, ‘**In-country progress towards achievement of the SUN Movement’s four strategic objectives**’ and ‘**the extent to which the Movement’s networks, secretariat and Lead Group are supporting countries’ efforts for scaling up nutrition and the impact of this support**’.
- **It is not an ‘impact evaluation’**- though the working assumption, based on available evidence, is that *if* the four strategic approaches being pursued by the Movement are effective and efficient, *then* there will be changes in a) the way malnutrition is addressed by countries committing to scale up nutrition and b) the way members of the Movement that have committed to align support for them are scaling up their own actions.
- The comprehensive evaluation **will be used to provide a vision for any future configuration or extension of the Movement**.
- The Secretariat is using the shorthand of ‘visioning exercise’ to distinguish between the evaluations already built into national actions plans, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the Movement that assesses the transformations the way SUN countries and SUN Networks are working together for shared results.

Process:

- A sub-group of the Lead group will manage the process. They will ensure that the **exercise is fully independent**, which will be a key requirement if SUN countries are to judge the effectiveness of the structures in place to provide support, and a necessity to incentivise other key players to invest further in the Movement.
- **A Team Leader will be recruited by the Lead Group to head the process**. Networks will be asked to provide a pool of experts from which the Team Leader can form a team. SUN countries will also be requested to put forward experts who could participate in the team. There may be a need for a peer review group of experts that will ensure that technical standards are of the highest quality.
- A scale and scope document is being prepared for the **Lead Group sub Group who will meet in early February to decide on the next steps**. These will likely include the development of detailed Terms of Reference for the visioning, and for the Team Leader. They will also decide on the timeframe for the evaluation- **but it is hoped that findings will be presented (in full or in part) for the September Lead Group meeting**.
- The exercise will use established evaluation norms, standards and accepted best practices to identify, measure and take account of lessons learned. It will be, necessarily, informed by taking stock of progress to date.
- **The evaluation team is expected to undertake assessments in around 6 SUN countries from the following regional groups: Asia; South and East Africa; Francophone West Africa; Latin America and the Caribbean**. Country assessments will include SUN countries that have been in the Movement for several years (the ‘early-riser’ countries), as well as some who have joined only recently.

- It will also seek perspectives from global organizations that support SUN countries, as well as those with divergent views.
- There will need to be a balance between a process that provides the necessary legitimacy for the future foundations for the Movement and one that does not create paralysis in the current system.

Asks from SUN countries:

- The Secretariat will share the Lead Group's scale and scope document once finalised, and the draft Terms of Reference for the evaluation. We would welcome their comments on the latter, (when it has been drafted).
- We would welcome expressions of interest from experts to participate in the evaluation team once the Team Leader has been chosen- though it will be up to the Team Leader to form the team.
- We would appreciate their assistance in facilitating the team's visit, once we know which countries they have chosen.

ANNEX: the 4 process indicators of the SUN movement

During conference calls, Government Focal Points share their experience in advancing nutrition efforts at country level, reviewing the four SUN processes defined in the SUN Strategy to Scale Up Nutrition which indicate the stage of a country's preparedness. These four processes have been translated into four indicators agreed upon with the SUN Movement Secretariat, which are:

Process One: Bringing people into a shared space for action:

This process describes the progressive changes needed to bring stakeholders into a Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) in order for them to align activities behind country-led policies and plans and to take joint decisions for action. The MSP is convened by a government body with a multi-sectoral mandate able to engage relevant line Ministries and key partners from civil society, donors, business, UN system organisations and universities.

Process Two: Ensuring a coherent policy and legal framework

This process describes the progressive changes needed to create a legal and policy environment where nutrition action is prioritised and enabled. Such a legal environment is created by the existence of legislation related to nutrition. In addition, an enabling environment for nutrition is created through the existence of nutrition-specific policies, strategies and plans, as well as updated nutrition-sensitive policies in areas such as agriculture, education, social protection and others.

Process Three: Aligning around a Common Results Framework

This process contains a description of the progressive alignment of programs around shared goals captured in a Common Results Framework (CRF), for both nutrition-specific interventions and for nutrition-sensitive programmes in other sectors. The CRF is based on consensus across the Government and non-Government partners (bilateral Donors, UN, civil society organisations, etc.) on the contribution that each stakeholder can bring to improved nutrition outcomes. The CRF helps to align existing strategies and programmes and draws on relevant targets, indicators and means of verification.

Process Four: Financial Tracking and Resource Mobilisation

This process focuses on the progressive changes needed to ensure programmes are clearly costed, gaps are identified and domestic and external resources are mobilised and tracked.