

4.1 SUN Civil Society Network (SUN CSN) - Supporting the implementation of commitments and investments in nutrition – Country examples and broader cross-learning

24 September 2013 09:00 – 10:20

Briefing Note:

This session will examine how governments can be supported and assisted in their efforts to ensure commitments become a reality and are tracked along with investments for nutrition. The session will draw on the experiences of SUN Civil Society Alliances in Zambia and Bangladesh to generate discussion on how the priority needs identified by SUN country governments in preparation for the SUN global gathering can be addressed. Civil Society can play an important role, not only in terms of holding governments to account, but also in terms of supporting governments to achieve commitments made.

In Zambia, for example, following the government pledge made during the Nutrition for Growth summit, the CSO-SUN in Zambia and key stakeholders developed recommendations to the Ministry of Finance on how to take these commitments forward and transform the pledge into concrete deliverable actions and financial investments, particularly in five key sectors (Agriculture, Health, Education, Community Development Mother and Child Health and Local Government). The CSO-SUN in Zambia also recently developed a Joint Civil Society Submission to the Ministry of Finance and National Planning around CSO support in building effective tax systems in Zambia for the benefit of greater society. The experience in Bangladesh will also be used to illustrate the types of efforts that can be led by civil society to support governments in their efforts to scale up nutrition in their countries. These examples will serve to trigger debate and discussions in order to start identifying and capturing ways in which Civil Society can assist and support governments in these efforts.

Objectives:

To identify and present ways in which Civil Society can assist and support governments in tracking commitments and investments

Programme:

Presenting the global context – 5 minutes

(Tom Arnold, SUN Lead Group Member, Session Moderator)

A Zambian experience - Illustrating the role Civil Society can play – 5 minutes

William Chilufya (Zambia) - Zambia Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance (CSO-SUN)

The Experience of Bangladesh- Illustrating the role Civil Society can play – 5 minutes

(Bangladesh SUN Civil Society Alliance - Sultana Khanum)

The Role of the Donor Network in tracking commitments - 5 minutes

Leslie Elder, World Bank

Discussion session – Breakout Groups - 40 minutes

The discussions will also bring perspectives from Niger, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Peru and Ethiopia.

Reporting key messages from discussion groups – 10 minutes

Identifying priority areas of action, opportunities for action, opportunities for documenting efforts, means for continuing dialogue and sharing of experiences – 10 minutes

Key questions for consideration by participants in discussion groups:

- What are the key ingredients of a successful accountability and tracking strategy? Encourage participants to share examples of what has worked. (15 minutes)

- What are the barriers to successful implementation? Encourage participants to share examples of what has been a challenge. (15 minutes)
- Looking to the future: (10 minutes)
 - What is the top priority in your own country context in the next 12 months? (be specific and share with the group)
 - How can network members work together towards these goals in the next 12 months?

Format of group discussions:

5 tables of 10 participants facilitated by country SUN CSA representatives (Niger, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, and Ethiopia)

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4.2 Developing a multi-sectoral plan – Roles of UN and CSOs and working together towards strengthened country plans.

24 September 2013, 10.40 – 12.00

Briefing Note:

Based on experiences of SUN Civil Society Alliances in two countries, and to address the priority needs raised by governments and shared by the SUN movement secretariat in preparation for the SUN global gathering, the SUN Civil Society Network proposes to hold a session to share experiences from Sierra Leone and Mali as well as from a UN perspective on developing multi-sectoral plans in SUN countries.

Objectives:

To identify learnings and recommendations from experiences (both from speakers' and audience experiences) in developing and strengthening multi-sectoral plans in SUN countries.

Programme:

Building a multi-sectoral plan and implications for rolling-out with support of UN and CSOs – Introduction – 4 minutes
Milo Stanojevich (CARE Peru, Session Moderator)

The Sierra Leone experience, learning and recommendations – 8 minutes

- Government Focal Point perspective - Aminata Shamit Koroma, SUN Focal Point
- SUN CSA perspective - Melrose Tucker, SUN CSA in Sierra Leone & Health and Nutrition manager FOCUS 1000

The Mali experience, learning and recommendations – 8 minutes

- SUN CSA perspective - Boureima Toure – SUN CSA in Mali & Président du Conseil National de la Société Civile
- The UN perspective - Amadou Fofana – UN REACH National Facilitator

Discussion session – 40 minutes

Reporting key messages from discussion groups – 10 minutes

Identifying priority areas of action, opportunities for action, opportunities for documenting efforts, means for continuing dialogue and sharing of experiences – 10 minutes

Key questions for consideration by participants:

- What are the priority needs of countries for the development of scaling up nutrition plan?
- What are the key ingredients of successful multi-sectoral plans (encourage participants to share examples) (15mins)
 - Was CS actively engaged in the development process?
 - How was the rolling out of the plans integrated in the plans and what was the process for this to happen?
- Sharing lessons learned (15 mins)
 - What were the barriers to achieving agreed objectives? (e.g. coordination challenge, roles and responsibilities for implementation, gaps, required improvements, decentralising a multi-sectoral plan)
 - How were they overcome?
- Looking to the future (15 mins)
 - How can network members work together towards implementing successful multisectoral plans in the next 12 months?

Format of group discussions:

Seven tables of 10 participants facilitated by Asma Lateef (Bread for the World), Victoria Quinn (HKI), Philip Mann (UN REACH - Tanzania), Mary Materu (CSO representative in Tanzania) and other TBC.

4.3 SUN Business Network - What do SUN countries need from business to scale up nutrition?

24 September 2013 09:00 – 10:20

Briefing Note:

This session will explore the potential opportunities and challenges of working with business to scale up nutrition. This session will look at a number of case studies which will explore the following issues:

- What role can food and non-food companies play in scaling up nutrition?
- What are the entry points for engaging business in scaling up nutrition country plans? And what's the best way to approach the private sector?
- What's the role of businesses in multi-stakeholder partnerships? What's the best way to maximize business input?
- As a business representative – what are the main challenges to effectively contribute to scaling up nutrition? And how can business work with SUN countries to overcome these challenges?
- What challenges do SUN focal points face in engaging with the private sector and identifying the entry points for business in scaling up nutrition?

Objectives:

- Introduce the SUN Business Network (SBN) to the wider SUN Movement and provide SUN Countries with a greater understanding of what resources the SBN can offer in support of SUN multi-stakeholder platforms.
- Provide an overview of the potential ways in which SUN countries can be supported by business in scaling up nutrition, with a focus on food and non-food companies, local and multinational
- Highlight the key opportunities, challenges and effective ways of working with business and integrating the private sector in multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Programme:

9.00 – 9.05: Introduction and Opening Remarks

Martin Bloem, SUN Business Network, Director, HIV/AIDS and Nutrition, World Food Programme

9.05 - 9.30: Presentation of case studies

- WFP & DSM - "Improving Nutrition, Improving Lives" partnership: The role of multinational companies
- Protein Kissée La & Helen Keller International in Cote d'Ivoire: The role of local/national companies
- Brac-Renata Partnership in Bangladesh: Partnerships at a country level
- GSMA – mHealth: The role of mobile technology
- PSI & Lifebuoy: The role of business in consumer behaviour change

9.30 - 10.10: Questions and Answers Session

10.10-10.20: Wrap- Up including potential next steps for SUN Business Networks at a country-level

4. 4 How can SUN countries work with SUN networks to create an effective multi-stakeholder approach to scaling up nutrition?

24 September 2013, 10.40 – 12.00

Briefing Note:

The session will use examples of successful multi-stakeholder partnerships involving business as a basis for discussion on how to generate an improved framework which enables SUN countries to engage business and community partners in the implementation of national scale up plans. The session will draw on the expertise of business, civil society, donors and SUN country governments to examine the elements required for SUN countries to lead effective multi-stakeholder approaches to their own country's scaling up nutrition plans.

Objectives:

The session will seek to address the following issues with a view contributing to the development of a supportive enabling environment which encourages robust civil society and business engagement for scaling up nutrition:

- Mechanisms to engage national business and entrepreneurs in country planning;
- Identifying the resources required to capacitate planning and design involving market-based approaches, aligned with SUN country strategies;
- Criteria for partnerships (values, principles, transparency and reporting);
- Identifying gaps/ways that donor partners can support his process; and
- Reporting and evaluation approaches.

Programme:

10.40 – 10.45: Introduction and opening remarks

Marc Van Ameringen, SUN Business Network, Executive Director, GAIN

10.45 – 11.10 Panel Discussion

Obey Assery, SUN Focal Point Tanzania

Sean de-Cleene, Senior Vice-President, Global Initiatives, Strategy and Business Development, Yara International

Theresa Banda, Valid Nutrition, Malawi

Dr. Hanns-Christoph Eiden, Donor Network, Government of Germany

Martha Newsome, World Vision International

11.10 – 11.45: Questions and Answers

11.45- 12.00: Wrap-Up

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4.6 SUN Donor Network - Interactive Discussion: How can we draw on successes and new ideas to address some of the challenges to tracking progress?

24 September 2013 09:00 – 10:20

Briefing Note:

The Governments of countries in the SUN Movement are working with communities, civil society groups, business enterprises, scientific bodies, development partners and international organizations to scale up the efforts necessary for all their people to enjoy good nutrition. They want to demonstrate that the time and funds being invested are yielding improvements – increases in investment, better quality implementation, results achieved and impact on nutrition – especially among women and young children. That is why the governments of many SUN countries are now reinforcing their systems for tracking investments, monitoring implementation, measuring results and demonstrating impact. Some seek external support that helps them to do so in ways that respond to national priorities while taking account of existing systems and the institutional context within which they operate.

This session aims to discuss this increased interest in tracking by SUN Movement stakeholders. The session will hear from SUN countries about what tracking systems exist in their countries and what challenges they face, share information on existing and new tracking mechanisms, drawing on experiences in other sectors and discuss how these mechanisms can be better tailored to assist SUN countries. The SUN Secretariat will give an overview of the importance of tracking for SUN, and SUN countries will summarise challenges discussed during the first day of the Global Gathering. SUN stakeholders, including representatives from the Donor, UN and CSO networks, as well as experts, will respond to country challenges and put forward their views on what exists and what may be needed to meet the needs of SUN.

Objectives:

- To present information on SUN Movement Stakeholders are interested in tracking.
- To hear from SUN countries about what tracking systems exist in their countries and what challenges they face.
- To share information on existing and new tracking mechanisms, drawing on experiences in other sectors.
- To discuss how these mechanisms can be better tailored to assist SUN countries.

Programme:

Moderator: Erin McLean, SUN Donor Network, Government of Canada

SUN Movement Tracking Progress - What Information is important and why? (10 minutes)

Discussion on tracking of impact and programme indicators, as well as financial flows and their linkages to results
(Presenter: Patrizia Fracassi, SUN Movement Secretariat)

Country success and challenges (20 minutes)

Summary from Day one of what exists in countries and what are the specific challenges?
(Specific interventions from Peru and Rwanda)

Response from SUN Actors (30 minutes)

(Lola Gostelow, EU Nutrition Advisory Service, Rebecca Heidkamp, Johns Hopkins University, Zia Hyder, World Bank, plus others TBC).

Structured discussion (20 minutes)

4.5 How to access finance for scaling up nutrition?

24 September 2013, 10.40 – 12.00

Briefing Note:

Many SUN countries are finalising their costed plans, assessing financing gaps and putting in place financial tracking systems. On June 8 in London many countries, as well as donors committed increased resources for nutrition. This session will provide an opportunity to discuss external financing options for national costed-plans.

Objectives:

- To share experiences on identifying and addressing financing gaps in national nutrition plans;
- To consult SUN constituencies on the design of the catalytic financing fund;
- To communicate mechanisms for accessing external financing;
- To consult countries on whether quality standards for country plans would be helpful.

Programme:

Introductions and key points arising from previous day's country-led sessions (10 minutes)

Anna Taylor

External financing models in place: experience from Sierra Leone, Zambia and Mozambique. Views from others.

Paula Molloy, Donor Network, Irish Aid Sierra Leone

Anna Taylor, Donor Network, DfID

Zia Hyder, Donor Network, World Bank

Comments from respective focal points.

Feedback from IUNS meeting, Ellen Piwoz, Donor Network, Gates Foundation

Designing the Catalytic Fund – how to maximise its added value. Questions for discussion (25 minutes)

Michael Anderson, Pete McDermott, Donor Network, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)

Maximising the quality of country plans and mechanisms to achieve this (20 minutes)

Betsy Jordan Bell, Donor Network, USAID

Ellen Piwoz, Donor Network, Gates Foundation

Conclusions and action points (5 minutes)

4. 7 UN System Network for SUN - Better together for SUN: Sharing country experiences, successes, challenges and needs for improved multi-sectoral nutrition actions 24 September 2013, 09.00 – 10.20

Briefing Note:

A multisectoral approach is essential in order to achieve effective and sustained improvements of malnutrition. It is linked to improved nutrition governance and entails regular review of the nutrition situation and a need for a coordinated response to new challenges and opportunities, where and when they appear. The UN system, with its intrinsic multi-agency and, therefore, multi-sectoral structure is exceptionally well placed to support governments and partners in pursuing multi-sectoral work in nutrition. A good example is the REACH inter-agency partnership between the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). REACH aims to ensure that countries have the necessary capacity to scale-up nutrition efforts, where appropriate, through a cohesive and facilitated consensus-building process.

This is a country experience sharing session on the multi-sectoral approach to scaling up nutrition and how the UN System has organised themselves to support government efforts.

Objectives:

To share experiences on multi-sectoral nutrition governance and actions and seek feedback from countries on how the UN can support strengthened, coordinated multi-sectoral nutrition governance and action.

Programme:

Moderators: Aminata Shamit Koroma, SUN Focal Point, Sierra Leone, and Hanns-Christoph-Eiden, SUN Donor Network, Government of Germany

Welcome – Moderators - 5 minutes

Setting the stage: overview of multi-sectoral nutrition governance and approaches for scaling up of nutrition.
Nancy Walters, Global REACH Coordinator– 5 minutes

Sharing of country experiences: How countries are working multi-sectorally at national and subnational level for nutrition scale-up (advocacy, multi-sectoral policies and programmes, capacity building and tracking nutrition scale-up across sectors) -30 minutes

- Mozambique experience presented by the SUN country focal point
- Nepal experience presented by the Programme Director of National Planning Commission
- DRC experience presented by the SUN Country focal point

Discussion and feedback: How can the UN better support multi-sectoral nutrition governance and approaches - 30 minutes

Wrap up and conclusions by the moderators -10 minutes

4. 8 How can the UN System more effectively respond to country needs and offer better support for national efforts in nutrition?

24 September 2013, 10.40 – 12.00

Briefing Note:

The Governments of countries in the SUN Movement are part of the United Nations and are supported by the UN agencies in their scale up nutrition efforts. Many SUN countries have national nutrition-relevant policies, legal frameworks and plans in place and are working with different stakeholders on their implementation. The UN System plays a key role in collectively supporting these national processes to scale up nutrition. The UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) is the platform for global level UN system wide harmonization addressing all forms of malnutrition. Harmonized joint UN actions provide effective support for evidence based policy formulation, and scale-up of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions at all levels. UN agencies assist countries with policy advice and normative guidance, support coordination, assist with capacity building and strengthening e.g. for national and sub-national nutrition information systems and surveillance, support applied research agendas and assist governments through specific programmes for both development and emergency responses. The UN Network ensures harmonized nutrition guidance and approaches for country-led efforts to scaling-up nutrition.

This session is an opportunity for SUN countries to get engaged into a constructive dialogue with the UN System Network on how the UN assistance could be made more effective and better respond to countries' priorities and opportunities for all their people to enjoy good nutrition in a sustainable way.

Objectives:

To dialogue with participants and gather suggestions about the UN's nutrition work (policy and programme and support to governance) at country level and seek feedback on how to better respond to national needs

Programme:

Welcome and introduction – 5 minutes

Moderators: Abdoulaye Ka, SUN Focal Point, Senegal, and Brendan Rogers, Donor Network, Director-General, Irish Aid

Roundtable Discussion – 25 minutes

Feedback from roundtables discussion- 20 minutes

UN System Network Panel responds to issues raised -25 minutes

Panel: Francesco Branca (UN Network, WHO)
Martin Bloem (UN Network, WFP)
Mohamed AgBendeche (UN Network, FAO)
Werner Schultink (UN Network, UNICEF)

Wrap up by the moderators - 5 minutes

Key questions for consideration by participants in roundtable discussions:

- List 3 issues/areas of work that need UN support to advance SUN at all levels making optimal use of UNSCN's harmonization mandate.
- How do governments want to be assisted? How should the UN System better organize itself to deliver assistance to countries?