

## Frequently Asked Questions about the UN Network for SUN

### **Q: When was the UN Network for Scaling Up Nutrition created?**

**A:** The UN Network for Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) was endorsed in June 2013 by the Principals of the five UN Agencies of the REACH Partnership (FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO).

### **Q: What are the aims of the UN Network for SUN?**

**A:** The **UN Network for SUN** works with UN Agencies in pursuit of the SUN Movement objectives in *all* SUN countries. The UN Network for SUN serves to: (1) strengthen the harmonization, coordination and effectiveness of UN agencies' activities in support of country nutrition efforts; (2) align with and articulate UN nutrition efforts to those of national governments, other SUN Networks and nutrition stakeholders at global and country levels, including alignment with SUN 2.0 strategy, World Health Assembly 2025 goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda 2030 for nutrition; and (3) advance the aims of the SUN Movement.

### **Q: Which agencies are engaged in the UN Network for SUN at the country level?**

**A:** The membership of the UN Network for SUN is open to all UN agencies engaged in nutrition at country level.

### **Q: Who participates from each member agency of the UN Network for SUN at the country level?**

**A:** The UN Network for SUN is one of the networks of the SUN Movement, which also includes the Business Network, the Donor Network and the Civil Society Network. At country level, the UN Network for SUN comprises most senior UN agency technical/programme staff, who are working towards an agreed UN nutrition agenda to support a national multi-sectoral strategy on nutrition. Membership is determined by the UN staff in the country and may be broadened to other UN Agencies beyond the five agencies mentioned above.

### **Q: Who chairs the UN Network for SUN at the country level?**

**A:** The country leadership of the UN Network for SUN builds on what is already present at the country level. The UN Network for SUN is chaired by a senior UN staff (ideally one of the UN Representatives or Deputy Representatives) in-country, who is nominated by the UN Country Team (UNCT).

### **Q: How does the UN Network for SUN liaise with the other SUN networks at country level?**

**A:** The Chair will serve as the link with the SUN focal point and SUN networks at country level and the UN Network for SUN Secretariat as appropriate, and represents the UN Network for SUN at relevant meetings, including global, regional and country meetings and events, reporting to the UNCT on a regular basis.

### **Q: How does the UN Network for SUN at the country level interact with the UN Network for SUN at the global level?**

**A:** The Chair of the UN Network for SUN at the country level links with the UN Network for SUN Secretariat, as appropriate. In addition, a UN Network focal point at the Headquarters level, appointed by each member agency, liaises with the country focal points in the Network from their agency, as needed.

### **Q: What is the role of the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) in the UN Network for SUN?**

**A:** The UN Resident Coordinator periodically tables nutrition at the UNCT meetings and monitors the progress of the UN Network for SUN vis-à-vis its commitments.

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**Q: How does the UN ensure it is on the right track and accountable for delivering on its commitments?**

**A:** The UN network is expected to develop a nutrition strategy/agenda (as input to UNDAF/P or similar) and an annual work plan including performance indicators. Performance of the UN Network for SUN will be measured annually through a dashboard, which will be publicly available.

**Q: What specifically can the UN do to improve its efforts?**

**A:** Depending on the current level of coordination at the country level, specific actions of the UN Network could include:

- Mapping/inventory of existing UN agency country level work in nutrition, roles and responsibilities at national and sub-national levels and field presence of each agency; analysis of comparative advantage; cost-effectiveness analysis; etc.;
- Development of a comprehensive UN nutrition strategy/agenda that clearly responds to national multi-sectoral nutrition plans, as an input to UNDAF and aligned with SUN 2.0 strategy, World Health Assembly 2025 goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agenda 2030 for nutrition;
- Harmonization of nutrition messages, joint advocacy and resource mobilization for nutrition;
- Development of coherent, complementary programmes, leveraging evidence and innovation in design and implementation to place beneficiaries at the centre and address nutrition challenges in a holistic manner; and
- Respond to national requests for technical assistance including for coordination, tracking and nutrition governance.

**Q: How is the REACH Partnership involved in the UN Network for SUN?**

**A:** The Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition (REACH) provides support to national SUN processes through the provision of facilitation, coordination, analytical and capacity development support for country-led nutrition responses. In November 2014, the Principals of the five REACH partner Agencies agreed that the UN Network for SUN Secretariat be joined together with REACH. These arrangements were formalized in a revised/revalidated REACH Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), signed in March 2015. A new strategy for the UN Network for SUN and REACH is being developed as part of the strategy development process of SUN 2.0.

For additional information, please see <http://scalingupnutrition.org/the-sun-network/un-network> or contact [UNNetworkforSUN@wfp.org](mailto:UNNetworkforSUN@wfp.org) or:

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