

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Agenda 2030, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, WHA targets, Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC), and ICN2 Rome Declaration Commitments

Background

Nutrition has received increased attention from the international community in recent years, resulting in more engagement with a wide range of stakeholders in low, middle and high income countries. To galvanize global, regional and country efforts and support the achievement of global nutrition targets, there have been important alliances, movements, initiatives and calls to actions launched by the international community. These include but are not limited to: the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement; the World Health Assembly (WHA) targets, the Zero Hunger Challenge and the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)'s Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action (see Table 1).¹

These efforts are complementary and aligned, and furthermore, seek to mobilize all actors, including the UN, to employ a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach to nutrition and support the development of robust, coherent national nutrition plans, policies and strategies. A succinct overview of each is provided below, and further information is available on the respective websites.

Agenda 2030 – the Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which places strong emphasis on integrated approaches and has a particular relevance for addressing the determinants of malnutrition. The Agenda sets ambitious targets to be achieved by 2030, and promotes the achievement of the World Health Assembly targets for stunting and wasting. Agenda 2030 has seventeen sustainable development goals (SDGs) and specifically recognises improvements in nutrition as a key priority under SDG 2 (“End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture”). Nutrition is both an input to and an outcome of sustainable development. The SDGs are synergistic and represent neither an order of proposed actions, nor a ranking of urgency. They are deeply interconnected with many cross-cutting elements, nutrition being one of them. Nutrition is a fundamental investment that will underpin the successful achievement of all the SDGs.

WHA Targets

In 2012, the World Health Assembly (WHA) endorsed the Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, specifying a set of six ambitious global nutrition targets by 2025 that serve as a universal tool for tracking progress in nutrition. Following the endorsement of the six targets, the WHA endorsed (in 2013) the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases, including the Global Monitoring Framework. This plan has nine targets and 25 indicators. At the 2015 WHA, the Global Monitoring Framework on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition was approved, which includes a core set of 21 nutrition indicators.

¹ *Read more about these nutrition initiatives and calls for action at:*

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics> • <http://scalingupnutrition.org/> • <http://www.who.int/nutrition/global-target-2025/en/> • http://www.unscn.org/en/sun_un_network/ • <http://www.un.org/en/zerohunger/challenge.shtml> • <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/>

Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement

The SUN Movement, launched in September 2010, aims to catalyse collective action to end malnutrition in all its forms. As stunting is an outcome of multiple forms of malnutrition and a good proxy for development, the SUN Movement uses stunting as an indicator to measure the impact of its efforts. SUN is a global community of 55 engaged and mutually accountable countries and other stakeholders committed to investing in nutrition. SUN promotes a country-led approach, whereby SUN networks (UN Network, Civil Society Network, Donor Network and Business Network) convene around a multi-stakeholder platform led by the government to support the scale-up of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions. The Movement aims to amplify the impact of the collective networks' action on the ground and provides them with a collaborative space to convene, mobilize, share, learn, advocate, align and coordinate actions and approaches.

The SUN Movement has developed a 5-year strategy that includes four specific strategic objectives and a road map to support its implementation.

UN support (including to the SUN Movement): In SUN countries, the **UN Network for SUN** provides a platform for strengthening inter-agency coordination and coherence. Members of the UN Network for SUN currently include FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO (and IFAD in an advisory capacity) as well as additional agencies engaged at the country level. The UN Network for SUN Secretariat is hosted by WFP in Rome.

The Renewed Efforts against Child Hunger and undernutrition (**REACH**) partnership (FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO) is an offering of the UN Network for SUN and provides neutral support in coordination, analytics and capacity development. REACH facilitators work closely with the SUN focal points, government officials, the UN Country Networks and other SUN Networks to support multi-sectoral platforms and processes. The UN Network for SUN works closely with the **UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN)**, created in 1977, which is the inter-agency platform to support, coordinate and advance joint efforts on nutrition across the UN System at the global level. The UNSCN secretariat is currently hosted by FAO in Rome. The UNSCN is member of the **Committee on World Food Security Advisory Group** and a member of the **UN Interagency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs**, and continues to build bridges between the agriculture, health and environment communities. In July 2015, the UNSCN released the UN Global Nutrition Agenda (UNGNA), endorsed by the UN Agency technical nutrition leads. It proposes a broad framework for aligning the nutrition work of the UN agencies. The UNGNA describes the vision and ten guiding principles for UN work on nutrition. It also identifies outcomes, goals, outputs and activities for the next five years.

Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC): The United Nations Secretary-General's (UNSG) personal vision of a world without hunger

The ZHC was launched in 2012 as a call to action to all member countries to work towards a unified and aspirational goal to end hunger and malnutrition within a generation. It serves to mobilize high-level commitment to ending hunger and undernutrition, including stunting, and it recognizes existing efforts to combat malnutrition and hunger. The ZHC identifies five discreet pillars and goals, with Pillar 1 devoted to the specific goal of eradicating stunting among children less than 2 years old. The UN signatories comprise almost all of the 23 members of the High Level Task Force on Food and Nutrition Security (HLTF), including the UN Agencies of the UN Network for SUN/REACH/UNSCN. The ZHC encourages the participation of a range of organizations, private sector entities, social movements and people

around a common vision of ZHC. There are no new structures established to support the ZHC. In some countries, the ZHC is used as an advocacy tool, as an entry point to deepen food and nutrition security analysis, or as guidance to translate the ZHC pillars into concrete time-bound nutrition action plans.

The ICN2 Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action

The Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action were endorsed by 162 Member States, at the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), held in Rome in November 2014 and co-organized by FAO and WHO. The Rome Declaration states that “chronic malnutrition as measured by stunting has declined, but in 2013 still affected 161 million children under five years of age”; it commits Member States to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition worldwide, particularly undernourishment, stunting, wasting, underweight and overweight in children under five years of age. The Rome Declaration includes ten commitments (and recognizes that the UN Agencies, including the Committee on World Food Security, and international and regional financial institutions should work more effectively together to support national and regional efforts to accelerate progress in addressing malnutrition). The Framework for Action, which is voluntary in nature and is built on existing commitments, goals and targets, provides a set of 60 policy and programme options, which governments, acting in cooperation with other stakeholders, may incorporate, as appropriate, into their national policy and planning frameworks (including investment plans) for nutrition, health, agriculture, social protection and development. These recommendations may also be taken into consideration when negotiating international agreements to achieve better nutrition for all.

Further reflections

Irrespective of the entry point of interest to the country - whether it be global, national, sub-national advocacy and/or political platforms to inspire action, a set of targets or commitments agreed upon through an intergovernmental process, or an alliance or movement creating a sense of community and joint direction - it is key that all relevant stakeholders contribute to scaling up nutrition actions in order to address the multiple burden of malnutrition, involving multiple sectors under national leadership and ownership.

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Table 1. Comparing the goals, strategic objectives, targets, pillars and commitments of the Agenda 2030, SUN Movement, World Health Assembly, ZHC and ICN2

Agenda 2030 (17 SDGs)	SUN Movement (4 Strategic Objectives)	Global Nutrition Targets for 2025 (6 WHA Targets)	Zero Hunger Challenge (5 Pillars)	ICN2 (10 Commitments)
No poverty	Expand and sustain an enabling political environment	40% reduction in the no. of children under-5 who are stunted	Zero stunted children <2 years	Eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition worldwide
Zero hunger*	Prioritize effective actions that contribute to good nutrition	50% reduction of anaemia in women of reproductive age	100% access to adequate food all year round	Increase investments
Good health and well-being	Implement actions aligned with national CRF	30% reduction in low birth weight	All food systems are sustainable	Enhance sustainable food systems
Quality education	Effectively use, and significantly increase, financial resources for nutrition	No increase in childhood overweight	100% increase in smallholder productivity and income	Raise the profile of nutrition
Gender equality		Increase the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first 6 months up to at least 50%	Zero loss or waste of food	Strengthen human and institutional capacities
Clean water and sanitation		Reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5%		Strengthen and facilitate contributions and action by all stakeholders
Affordable and clean energy				Ensure healthy diets throughout the life course
Decent work and economic growth				Empower people and create enabling environment for making informed choices
Industry, innovation and infrastructure				Implement the commitments through the Framework for Action
Reduced inequalities				Integrate vision and commitments into the post-2015 agenda
Sustainable cities and communities				
Responsible consumption and production				
Climate action				
Life below water				
Life on land				
Peace, justice and strong institutions				
Partnerships for the goals				

*More specifically, the second Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) is to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.”