ANNUAL REPORT

Measuring Progress in 2016

With the support of:

Global Affairs Canada
Affaires mondiales Canada
# Table of Contents

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations ................................................................. 3

Key Achievements in 2016 ................................................................................. 5

1. Introduction ................................................................................................. 6

2. Country Progress against the four REACH Outcomes ........................................ 7
   - Outcome 1: Increased awareness and consensus of stakeholders ......................... 8
   - Outcome 2: Strengthened national policies and programmes ............................... 15
   - Outcome 3: Increased human and institutional capacity at all levels .................. 19
   - Outcome 4: Increased effectiveness and accountability ....................................... 23

3. Secretariat Support to REACH Countries ..................................................... 25
   - 3.1 Facilitator Support ....................................................................................... 25
   - 3.2 Tools and Guidance ..................................................................................... 26
   - 3.3 Monitoring & Evaluation .............................................................................. 27

4. Knowledge Management and Communications .......................................... 27
   - 4.1 Annual Meeting ............................................................................................ 27
   - 4.2 Knowledge-Sharing/Communications Platforms ......................................... 28
   - 4.3 Contributions to International Nutrition Dialogue ....................................... 28

5. Partnerships and Collaboration ..................................................................... 29
   - 5.1 UN Agencies .................................................................................................. 29
   - 5.2 Other Actors .................................................................................................. 29

6. REACH Transition and Sustainability ......................................................... 29
   - 6.1 Transition and Sustainability for Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar, Senegal and Mali .......... 29

7. Emerging Issues .......................................................................................... 30
   - 7.1 Demand for nutrition governance support .................................................... 30
   - 7.2 REACH Funding .......................................................................................... 30
   - 7.3 Evolving Global Nutrition Landscape .......................................................... 30

8. Priorities for 2017 ....................................................................................... 31
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3N</td>
<td>Nigeriens Nourish Nigeriens (Niger)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAN</td>
<td>SUN Academic Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBN</td>
<td>SUN Business Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAN</td>
<td>Compendium of Actions for Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDES</td>
<td>Economic and Social Development Council (Haiti)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLM</td>
<td>Unit for the Fight Against Malnutrition (Senegal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNA</td>
<td>Core Nutrition Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNSA</td>
<td>National Council for Food Security (Haiti)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COHA</td>
<td>Cost of Hunger in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRF</td>
<td>Common Results Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSN</td>
<td>Civil Society Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTPNA</td>
<td>Permanent Technical Committee for Nutrition and Food (Chad)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHIS2</td>
<td>District Health Information System, Version 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDN</td>
<td>SUN Donor Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNTA</td>
<td>National Nutrition and Food Technology Directorate (Chad)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPEM</td>
<td>District Plans to Eliminate Malnutrition (Rwanda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAC</td>
<td>Global Affairs Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GHS</td>
<td>Ghana Health Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTSAN</td>
<td>Technical Group for Food and Nutrition Security (Haiti)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC3N</td>
<td>High-Commission of the 3N initiative (Niger)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IASC</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Standing Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JMNR</td>
<td>Joint Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review (Tanzania)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>Local Government Authorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCHA</td>
<td>Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODA</td>
<td>Official Development Assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAMRDC</td>
<td>Multi-sectoral Action Plan for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN</td>
<td>SUN Parliamentarian Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANITA</td>
<td>Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNDES</td>
<td>National Plan for Economic and Social Development (Burkina Faso)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REACH</td>
<td>Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SETSAN</td>
<td>Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (Mozambique)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING</td>
<td>Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>Scaling Up Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN PMT</td>
<td>Scaling Up Nutrition Planning and Monitoring Tool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TFNC</td>
<td>Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDAF</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDAP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Assistance Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNN</td>
<td>UN Network for SUN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNSCN</td>
<td>United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Key Achievements in 2016

## COUNTRY LEVEL

- **Multi-sectoral analytical exercises** conducted, informing multi-sector nutrition governance processes such as advocacy, nutrition planning, policy formulation and reviews in eleven countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal & Tanzania)

- Brokering support with multiple actors for country **investment cases** (Mali, Mozambique & Senegal) and awareness-raising about the findings (e.g. Burkina Faso and Chad)

- **Joint advocacy and communication activities** to muster support for nutrition at country level
  - Development of national advocacy & communication strategies/plans (Burkina Faso, Senegal & Tanzania) & nutrition advocacy briefs (Burkina Faso, Mozambique & Myanmar)
  - Advocacy efforts targeting parliamentarians (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Nepal & Senegal)
  - Support to nutrition champions (Chad, Guinea, Nepal & Tanzania)
  - Advocacy through media outlets (Chad, Guinea, Haiti & Nepal)

- Facilitation support to elaborate, review &/or launch national multi-sectoral:
  - **Nutrition policies** (Burkina Faso, Guinea, Haiti & Niger)
  - **Nutrition action plans** (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, Senegal & Tanzania)

- **Strengthening of multi-sector nutrition coordination structures** at national/sub-national level through:
  - Advocacy on institutional arrangements for MSPs (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Ghana, Chad, Guinea, Haiti, Mali & Myanmar)
  - Support with set-up/restructuring (Bangladesh, Burundi, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Mali & Rwanda)
  - Support with functioning (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Ghana, Haiti, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania & Senegal)

- Nutrition governance **capacity gap assessment** conducted in Senegal

- **Strengthening of joint UN efforts in nutrition** by facilitating the recommended UN Network (UNN) actions
  - **UN Nutrition Inventories** undertaken (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar, Rwanda, Senegal & Tanzania)
  - **UN inter-agency strategic retreats** held (Burkina Faso, Myanmar & Rwanda)
  - **UN Nutrition Agenda/Strategy** drafted (Burkina Faso) and disseminated (Mozambique)

## GLOBAL LEVEL

- The **REACH partnership strategically repositioned**, clarified and now understood within the context of the UNN

- Diversification of donor base and secured **new funding for REACH**:
  - Irish Aid funding (EUR 1 million) for four countries (Lesotho, Sierra Leone, Tanzania & Zimbabwe)
  - EU bridge funding (EUR 550,000) for Chad

- Smooth **REACH transition process** in six countries (Bangladesh, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda and Niger)

- Preparations for **transition in Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar, Senegal and Mali**

- **Actions** successfully taken to address all of the recommendations of the 2015 **REACH external evaluation**

- Refinement/development of **REACH tools, templates and guidance**
  - Situation Analysis Dashboard template and Multi-sectoral Policy Overview templates updated
  - Guidance on the Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping tool (SUN Planning and Monitoring Tool, SUN PMT) refined
  - Substantive work on the development of a web-based version of the SUN PMT

- Catalyzing the clarification of UN agency roles and responsibilities on nutrition, inspiring enhanced UN collaboration at the country level

- Support to development of **UNN tools and guidance**
  - Nutrition Capacity Assessment Guidance Package developed
  - Guidance package on the country level UN Nutrition Inventory and Agenda/Strategy refined

- Completion, launch and dissemination of the **Compendium of Actions for Nutrition** with support from UN agencies and other experts

- Continued **dissemination of communication materials** (e.g. news stories on the REACH website, new/updated REACH materials on ‘internal’ REACH Knowledge Sharing Portal, e-Communications)
1. Introduction

REACH - Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition - is a UN inter-agency initiative that was established in 2008 by FAO, WHO, UNICEF and WFP, and joined later by IFAD. 2016 has been a critical year for REACH. Strategic directions, agreed in 2015 by the REACH agency Principals and Steering Committee, were successfully consolidated in 2016. The REACH partnership has been strategically re-positioned and clarified within the context of the UN Network for SUN (UNN), which is itself an outgrowth of the positive experience of REACH. As defined in the new UNN strategy, REACH is a service of the UNN with tools, human resources and experiences that can be drawn upon to achieve the UNN strategy outcomes. REACH continues to play a dual role, both supporting national nutrition governance processes and increased UN coordination. The facilitators largely serve as ‘drivers’ and ‘catalysts’ while actions are supported by UN partner agencies.

Teasing out the Added Value of REACH

REACH continues to play a supportive role to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, thanks to its strong presence at the country level, reputed neutrality and privileged relationship with SUN Government Focal Points. For these reasons, SUN Focal Points and other actors continue to turn to REACH to help mobilize actors across sectors and SUN networks, and to facilitate effective dialogue on multi-sectoral nutrition governance issues and processes. These range from the development of common advocacy messages for nutrition to the establishment and functioning of multi-stakeholder nutrition coordination platforms to multi-sectoral nutrition planning and implementation tracking.

REACH is also uniquely positioned to support the SUN Movement in that it couples its esteemed facilitation support with a suite of analytical tools, which continue to be recognized by the nutrition community for the breadth that they cover, the technical expertise of the partner agencies that they leverage, and their ensuing sharp outputs. These analytical exercises have proved useful in fostering a common language around nutrition among diverse nutrition actors and action-oriented discussions about scaling-up nutrition. In one case (Tanzania), a recommendation was made to embed these analytical exercises into the country’s new nutrition action plan (see output 4.1).

In 2016, the UNN/REACH Secretariat oversaw and backstopped REACH work in fifteen countries, where twenty REACH facilitators were deployed. Many of these facilitators (twelve) are national facilitators, helping to instil national ownership and maximize the sustainability of REACH functions and gains. A key aspect of the Secretariat oversight was working to ensure a smooth transition process in six countries, where intensive REACH support/funding concluded. This entailed applying a two-pronged approach, whereby sustainability was promoted by: (1) helping countries embed REACH functions and tools into country nutrition governance processes; and (2) phasing-over UN coordination-related REACH functions to the UN Network in-country. The country achievements made in 2016 also highlight the continued/residual efforts of prior REACH support, even post-REACH. Furthermore, exploratory missions were conducted in DRC and Lesotho in April and December, respectively.

Positive relationships were maintained with Steering Committee members (WHO, FAO, WFP, UNICEF, IFAD) as well as with other SUN networks, the SUN Secretariat, Columbia University, BCG, SCN, and other stakeholders and donors. The year ended on a high note with Ireland confirming initial funding for REACH with a potential for follow-up multi-year funding. Irish funding is being used to support three new countries (Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Sierra Leone) as well as the continuation of REACH in Tanzania.

---


2 These countries include Bangladesh, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal and Rwanda (Canada-funded) as well as Niger (EU-funded). Mali received additional funding through a second Canadian grant due to expire in December 2017, while Tanzania received additional funding from Irish Aid for 2017.
In addition, the EU has indicated bridge funding for REACH in Chad following discussions held over the course of 2016.

2. Country Progress against the four REACH Outcomes

This section highlights key REACH achievements in 2016 from fifteen countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, where twenty REACH facilitators were deployed. As previously mentioned, the facilitators have driven this work in large part with the valuable support of the UN partner agencies. Progress is reported against the four REACH outcomes and their respective outputs. REACH engagement in these countries would not have been possible without the generous contributions from Global Affairs Canada (GAC), the European Union (EU) and the UN, as outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada - Generation 1</td>
<td>Bangladesh, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada - Generation 2</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar and Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>Niger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>Burundi, Chad, Guinea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The country activities and progress discussed in this report stem from a rich partnership with UN agencies and other partners, whose expertise and know-how were pivotal. In addition, the below achievements were closely supported by the UNN/REACH Secretariat (herein Secretariat), which provided continuous support and oversight on REACH deliverables, both analytical and process-oriented (see section 3).

Like in previous years, the broader environment of countries in 2016 influenced REACH’s progress. Some of these factors were related to greater governance changes and/or challenges while others were due to natural emergencies. Still, other contextual factors were conducive to positive change. Haiti faced political uncertainty throughout the year. Following contested elections in 2015, a transitional government was installed in early 2016, with new presidential elections held several months later (November) and the newly nominated President to take office in 2017. It also was hit with Hurricane Matthew in early October, which further stalled nutrition-governance processes as the country shifted its focus to the emergency response. In Mozambique, internal conflicts, economic instabilities and alleged corruption posed real governance challenges. The latter two led to reductions or suspensions in Official Development Assistance (ODA). This was compounded by a leadership gap at the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN) due to the unexpected departure of the Executive Secretary in September 2016 and the humanitarian crisis following drought. Not surprisingly, these events delayed some REACH activities. Myanmar underwent a transition to a democratically elected government, which took office in April. While this presented a unique window of opportunity to place nutrition on the country’s political agenda, many processes were delayed due to the complex hierarchical structures and top-down approach for engaging with government. Furthermore, many efforts (including those of partner agencies) remain focused on the peace process and human rights. REACH subsequently made concerted efforts throughout the year to raise awareness about the value of improving multi-sectoral nutrition governance. Three REACH countries (Mali, Mozambique and Rwanda) experienced a turnover in SUN Government Focal Point in 2016. The new focal point in Mali also heads the country’s new Nutrition Coordination Cell, which REACH is actively supporting. These institutional arrangements have further enabled REACH to align its support with the SUN Movement in Mali. Lastly, funding constraints continued to hinder REACH work to strengthen multi-sectoral nutrition governance in Burundi, Chad and Guinea, prompting reflection about how to best proceed in these countries. With that said, Chad did make remarkable progress in 2016, and the newly secured funding from the EU for Chad allowed that country to define a renewed approach for strengthening nutrition governance, including support at sub-national levels.

---

3 REACH facilitators were on the ground in these countries in 2016.
Outcome 1: Increased awareness and consensus of stakeholders

1.1 Facilitation of multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder scoping exercise

Multi-stakeholder scoping exercises continued to be a cornerstone of REACH work at the country level, providing valuable inputs to nutrition governance processes. These exercises include the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, the Policy and Plan Overview and Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping. Their comprehensive yet concise, visual outputs have contributed to their continued relevance and popularity. They have helped actors rally around the causes of nutrition and have prompted constructive multi-sectoral discussions among a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including high-ranking government officials, decentralized government staff tasked with overseeing the implementation of nutrition actions as well as actors from various SUN networks.

REACH Analytical Exercises Spark Action in Ghana

The Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview (MNO) – both the 2016 and 2013 versions - prompted dialogue, especially on the impact of open defecation and use of iodized salt. This, in turn, spurred the Enforcement Committee (a sub-committee of the Regional Nutrition Coordination Committee) in the Upper West Region to conduct an iodine survey and sensitize its residents on the consequences of iodine deficiencies in the second quarter of 2016. Radio transmissions were broadcast by the Education Committee (another sub-committee of the Upper West Nutrition Coordination Committee) on the importance of consuming iodized salts. Iodized salt committees were revived at the district level to ensure increased availability of adequately iodized salt. Furthermore, the findings from the REACH-supported MNOs (and mapping) informed regional and district annual and mid-year reviews.

In 2016, multiple REACH countries worked on the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview (MNO), using the established REACH tools and methodologies. While some countries conducted this exercise for the first time (e.g. Guinea, Haiti and Myanmar), other REACH countries (e.g. Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger) updated and further elaborated. Still, other countries (e.g. Senegal) continued to use MNO materials completed during previous years.

- **Burkina Faso**: The national Situation Analysis Dashboard was finalized in addition to dashboards developed for all thirteen regions. These outputs were used for framing multi-stakeholder discussions on the new national nutrition policy and strategic plan as well as for providing context in these government documents.
- **Ghana**: REACH supported the northern regions to prepare updated MNO slides and Situation Analysis Dashboards based on the 2014 DHS data, which informed regional multi-sector, multi-stakeholder nutrition reviews in the Northern and Upper East regions and sub-national nutrition planning (see outputs 2.4 and 3.1).
- **Guinea**: The national Situation Analysis Dashboard was updated and presented to the technical group on food and nutrition in 2016. Draft MNO slides were also prepared, highlighting longitudinal and geographic

---

4 In Burkina Faso, a range of stakeholders were engaged in these government-led discussions, including UN agencies, civil society, donors and academia. The private sector did not partake in the policy formulation process, however, it did participate in the final workshop on the multi-sectoral nutrition plan.
nutritional trends as well as insights on the determinants of malnutrition in the country. These outputs were leveraged during nutrition meetings within the country and abroad.

- **Haiti**: The Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview was finalized and validated.
- **Niger**: MNO slides and Situation Analysis Dashboards were updated, including the preparation of the regional dashboards, the latter completed for the first time.
- **Myanmar**: Following a request from the SUN Government Focal Point for support with national nutrition stock-taking efforts, REACH supported the development of a nutrition overview (national level) in collaboration with government focal points from diverse sectors. The National Nutrition Centre and SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) led the exercise, and have drawn upon both REACH tools and facilitation support to bring together and engage relevant sectors and stakeholders. The draft MNO materials were presented during pivotal meetings (in August and December), convened by the Government with REACH support, whereby the MNO and other REACH materials were presented to help stakeholders reach consensus on the core nutrition actions (CNAs).
- **Senegal**: The national nutrition coordination platform (Cellule de Lutte contre la Malnutrition or CLM) distributed the MNO, completed in 2014 and updated in 2015, to new partners and stakeholders looking to familiarize themselves with the country’s nutrition situation.

In 2016, countries also worked on the **Policy and Plan Overview (PPO)** to ascertain the extent to which nutrition-related legislation, policies, strategies and plans reflect nutrition. In some cases, this work elaborated on work completed the previous year (e.g. Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Myanmar), whereas in other countries, the work was undertaken for the first time (e.g. Mali and Tanzania). Essentially, the PPO provides a high-level mapping of nutrition-related governance frameworks.

- **Burkina Faso**: The Policy Overview (completed in 2015) was expanded to include the planning frameworks, culminating in a discrete Plan Overview. The exercise reviewed national plans as well as regional and municipal plans from the Sahel and Eastern Regions, where the highest levels of malnutrition are reported and there are UN areas of convergence. Ultimately, these findings will feed into the forthcoming review of sub-national plans (in 2017) to help to ensure that nutrition is strongly articulated.
- **Mali**: The Policy and Plan Overview was completed in Mali, with an initial draft circulated for comments at the end of December.
- **Mozambique**: The Policy Overview was updated to encompass newly available nutrition policies and strategies. The 2016 work also encompassed a review of planning frameworks, including an analysis of the annual economic and social plans of nutrition-related ministries, which applied adapted rating criteria. The exercise was undertaken with the support of designated SETSAN staff, so that capacity to undertake it was built in this national nutrition secretariat. SETSAN and REACH colleagues jointly presented the methodology and findings during a government planning retreat in July.
- **Myanmar**: REACH worked in collaboration with government sector focal points to take an updated inventory of nutrition-related governance documents in view of the recent change of government. The work was presented during a government-organized meeting in December and helped set the stage for selecting the CNAs and the stakeholder and nutrition mapping exercise.
- **Tanzania**: A full PPO was completed in 2016. The Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) was briefed on the methodology and engaged to instil ownership in the exercise. The methodology and findings were shared with various actors at the country level, including the TFNC, the Civil Society Network (PANITA) and other relevant nutrition stakeholders.
Some countries conducted a **Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping**, using the valued REACH mapping tool (the SUN Planning and Monitoring Tool [SUN PMT]), which engages multiple sectors and stakeholders and obtains aggregate coverage data (geographic and population coverage). This comprehensiveness coupled with the visual mapping outputs continue to provide insights about the implementation status of national nutrition action plans. Mapping work was initiated in Mali and Myanmar, whereas additional rounds of mapping were conducted in Ghana and Tanzania. Moreover, non-REACH countries expressed interest in using the REACH mapping tool and methodology (e.g. DRC, Egypt and Lao PDR), appreciating the utility of the tool.

- **Ghana**: In 2016, REACH supported various measures in order to adapt and roll-out the mapping exercise at the district level in three northern regions. This entailed reviewing the stakeholder mapping templates (for data collection) and providing orientation sessions to district nutrition officers. Data collection and analysis were completed in two of these districts, using the adapted SUN PMT tool, while in others the mapping is still underway.

- **Haiti**: While REACH did not conduct its ‘typical’ mapping exercise in Haiti, it did support mapping on emergency work. For instance, food security and nutrition emergency interventions implemented in response to the drought were mapped through a joint exercise undertaken by REACH, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), EU/ECHO, NGOs and other partners. In addition, REACH contributed to mapping efforts conducted by OCHA and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) clusters following Hurricane Matthew. REACH specifically facilitated the selection of interventions to be mapped and the development of a mapping matrix.

- **Mali**: Benefitting from the positive REACH mapping experience in Burkina Faso and Niger - particularly the ability to generate coverage data - country actors showed renewed interest in carrying out the REACH-supported Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping. REACH helped organize a workshop with all stakeholder groups to launch the process in July 2016. The tool was adapted to the Mali context (e.g. CNAs, delivery mechanisms, indicators and list of stakeholders) and preliminary results were presented to a broad range of stakeholders during the Mid-term Review of the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (2014-2018) in November. While REACH provided technical backstopping support and quality assurance, the process was led by Mali’s nutrition coordination cell.

- **Tanzania**: The REACH-supported mapping was updated, using the SUN PMT tool, over a four-month period from June to October 2016. Data was collected and analyzed for national and district levels. Draft data visualization outputs were prepared in late 2016, which will be finalized in early 2017. The findings were discussed during the Joint Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review, leading to a recommendation to use the REACH mapping tool to monitor the country’s new nutrition plan.

- **Myanmar**: In 2016, REACH and UNICEF supported the launch of the mapping exercise as part of the government’s broader nutrition stocktaking efforts in December, creating momentum around the exercise. REACH has continued to work closely with the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU), with a view to strengthening national capacity on coordinated data collection, analysis and dissemination for decision-making.

- **Rwanda**: Various focal points from the social cluster ministries, district committees and development partners requested copies of the REACH mapping presentation (updated in 2015) to inform prioritization discussions about scaling-up nutrition.
1.2 Selection of core nutrition actions for expected results

REACH facilitation has been instrumental in helping countries bring together actors from diverse sectors and institutions in order to select core nutrition actions (CNAs). Where this exercise was conducted, outputs from the REACH-supported MNO were leveraged to help frame these participative discussions. Specific achievements are highlighted below.

- **Burkina Faso**: The country’s 29 CNAs were integrated into the common results framework (CRF), which was likewise developed in 2016.
- **Mali**: In preparation for the REACH-supported PPO and mapping exercises, a list of 23 CNAs was developed through a participatory process, facilitated by REACH. The list is based on the interventions included in the country’s MultiSectoral Action Plan (2014-2018) and takes into consideration context-specific challenges. These discussions prompted interest in updating the MNO that was conducted in late 2013.
- **Myanmar**: REACH facilitated the identification of prioritized CNAs in a government-led process that started at a SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) meeting on 12 August 2016. During the meeting, government officials from different sectors agreed on a list of twenty prioritized CNAs out of an initial list 48 actions, with consideration to the existing evidence-base and gender (see section 3.2).
- **Senegal**: Efforts to define a list of CNAs were undertaken as part of the development of the country’s multi-sectoral action plan in 2016. Led by the CLM, the process took into account the actions included in the work plans of relevant ministries and *The Lancet* interventions, including nutrition-specific interventions that the ministries are effectively implementing. In particular, the REACH National Facilitator actively engaged in sector discussions to help them derive their respective lists of CNAs, using the CNAs from the REACH-supported Policy Overview and mapping (conducted in 2015) as a starting point for discussion.
- **Tanzania**: Sixteen CNAs were identified for the new mapping exercise and nineteen CNAs for the Policy and Plan Overview, in a process facilitated by REACH. The selection process unfolded across multiple meetings with colleagues from the TFNC, UNN and Civil Society Network.

1.3 Investment case

REACH carries out a purely facilitation role with respect to the development of country-specific investment cases for nutrition. In 2016, REACH facilitators continued to give visibility to existing resources (e.g. Cost of Hunger in Africa [COHA] studies, the World Bank’s Investment Framework for Nutrition), including their respective findings/outputs. REACH facilitators also supported preparations for the launch of COHA studies and reports and other ‘behind the scenes’ work, as depicted below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of REACH Support</th>
<th>Burkina Faso</th>
<th>Chad</th>
<th>Mali</th>
<th>Mozambique</th>
<th>Senegal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Launch of study &amp;/or report</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparations for the investment case</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of &amp;/or participation in training</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brokering support with multiple actors</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing/funding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness raising about the findings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the information reported in the above table, the following country examples highlight how REACH supported this deliverable during the reporting period.

- **Burkina Faso**: REACH helped amplify the results of Burkina’s 2015 COHA study in advocacy briefs, which were prepared in 2016 for new parliamentarians and other government authorities. REACH facilitators also encouraged the inclusion of these findings in other influential correspondence, notably the joint UNN-Civil Society Network letter that was sent to the President of the National Assembly and circulated during the Parliamentary workshop (see output 1.4).
**Chad**: REACH supported the launch of the COHA report (October), which was led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Economy and Planning and Development. The event was attended by many stakeholders, such as: Parliamentarians, UN Representatives (UNICEF, WFP) and an EU delegation. REACH encouraged stakeholders to cite key findings from the COHA study in advocacy materials, including those distributed at the information day with Parliamentarians in December (see output 1.4).

**Mali**: As part of the preparations for the COHA study (financed by WFP), REACH contributed to the final design of the study for Mali and served as a member of the National Technical Team, which is piloting the exercise. The REACH National Facilitator also participated in the COHA training (June), which was held in Mozambique.

**Mozambique**: REACH helped SETSAN develop the work plan for the COHA study and organize the data collection process. It also helped arrange a multiple-country COHA training in Maputo, where staff from the WFP Ethiopia Country Office and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean trained participants. Furthermore, the REACH Facilitator helped the COHA team liaise with country actors engaged in the study, including government staff from various ministries, the National Institute of Statistics and SETSAN. Lastly, REACH covered the costs of the COHA Coordinator position.

**Senegal**: In 2016, REACH co-implemented a study with the World Bank to support the development of an investment case for nutrition in Senegal. The study was focused on nutrition capacity assessment (see output 3.2).

### 1.4 Joint communications and advocacy strategy

In 2016, REACH was more engaged in nutrition communications and advocacy activities with respect to years past. It contributed to a range of activities that supported joint communications and advocacy on nutrition, including those for and targeted to government. The REACH facilitators were often called upon by SUN Government focal points to help them sensitize actors on nutrition, including their roles and responsibilities for addressing nutrition and the need for employing a multi-sectoral approach. REACH support was also requested for bringing actors together from various sectors and SUN networks in support of these joint activities. In some cases (Myanmar), REACH analytical deliverables served as an entry point for sensitization activities. Outputs from the analytical exercises were also frequently leveraged as inputs to joint communications and advocacy efforts. Summarized information is reported in the table above while additional details are provided below for selected country achievements.

#### Drafting of national advocacy and communication strategies/plans

**Burkina Faso**: REACH supported the development of a draft advocacy, communication and social mobilization strategy, including key preparations. Among these, REACH developed a synthesis of the existing advocacy and communications strategies, where it integrated results from interviews that it conducted with communication managers from key sectors, UN agencies and NGOs (July-September). These

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Number of Countries</th>
<th>Names of Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Drafting national (nutrition) advocacy and communication strategies or plans</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Senegal &amp; Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Development of nutrition advocacy briefs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Mozambique &amp; Myanmar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Other advocacy efforts targeting parliamentarians</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Nepal &amp; Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Support to nutrition champions</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chad, Guinea, Nepal &amp; Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Advocacy through media outlets</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chad, Guinea, Haiti &amp; Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Support to other national nutrition advocacy efforts</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Haiti, Mozambique, Nepal &amp; Rwanda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
preparatory measures helped identify gaps, and steer the ensuing work on the strategy. REACH then organized a series of meetings with sectors in order to discuss common challenges. The draft strategy was finalized in December, and includes a costed operational plan for the next five years.

✓ **Senegal**: In collaboration with the CLM and other country actors, REACH supported the development of a nutrition advocacy and communication strategy. The strategy aims to support the dissemination of the new national nutrition policy, and includes an operational plan and annexes. These efforts helped to sensitize and mobilize actors for the development and implementation of the multi-sectoral action plan. They have also helped mobilize investments, starting with domestic funding put forth by the CLM, to operationalize the nutrition advocacy and communication strategy.

**Advocacy efforts targeting Parliamentarians**

**REACH Support Is Instrumental in Mobilizing Parliamentarians and Catalyzing Follow-up Action in Burkina Faso**

REACH, together with partners, held a sensitization workshop with Parliamentarians in September. The event was jointly funded by REACH and Helen Keller International, and brought together 35 deputies, the SUN Government Focal Point, other government officials from line ministries as well as fifteen members of other SUN networks. It marked an opportunity to raise awareness about the nutrition situation in the country, including opportunities for better reflecting nutrition in the country’s policy and planning frameworks. Participants discussed budgetary allocations, coordination issues, and how parliamentarians can contribute to effectively combating malnutrition. Clear next steps for parliamentarian engagement were identified, such as advocating for the improved anchoring of nutrition coordination, increasing government budgetary allocations for nutrition, and strengthening nutrition-related legislative and regulatory frameworks. REACH also catalyzed follow-up action, helping Burkina’s UNN and CSN prepare a joint letter on the nutrition situation, which was sent to the President of the National Assembly. REACH support was particularly instrumental in highlighting the challenges with the institutional arrangements for nutrition coordination and providing constructive suggestions to address these, drawing on REACH experiences in the Burkina Faso and in other countries.

✓ **Chad**: REACH co-organized and co-facilitated an information day (22 December 2016), with the SUN Parliamentary Network, the National Food and Nutrition Direction and UNICEF, to sensitize Members of Parliament and the National Assembly on the country’s malnutrition problems. Excerpts from the REACH MNO and the results of the COHA study were presented to illustrate the causes and consequences of malnutrition.

✓ **Mali**: In 2016, REACH supported the preparations for and organization of three advocacy events which targeted Parliamentarians, working with the Ministry of Health and the SUN CSN. These include: (1) a Nutrition Advocacy Day at the National Assembly in May, which officially launched the SUN Parliamentarian Network; (2) a successive advocacy day with Parliamentarians and the Ministry of Finance in October to discuss modalities for including a budget line for nutrition in the state budget; and (3) a high-level advocacy event with Parliamentarians in December.

✓ **Nepal**: REACH advocacy efforts continued in spite of the departure of the REACH facilitator in late 2015. In particular, the REACH-supported National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat (NNFSS) helped the National Planning Commission to organize an interactive programme with the Members of Parliament to sensitize them on nutrition and food security issues (June). Over 60 honourable members from sixteen districts attended the workshop.
Development of nutrition advocacy briefs

REACH Seizes Windows of Opportunity Amid the Evolving Political Landscape in Myanmar

During the first semester of 2016, REACH worked swiftly to develop Nutrition Advocacy Briefs, both in English and Burmese, capitalizing on the political transition that the country was undergoing at the time. These briefs were crafted for the National League for Democracy (NLD) party before they formally assumed roles in the new government, with a view to placing nutrition on its political agenda. Proving to be fruitful, the efforts resulted in the briefs being referenced in NLD party manifesto.

In addition, a one-page brief on nutrition for the new government was completed with REACH facilitation support at the end of March. The latter was submitted to Myanmar’s Foreign Minister/ State Counsellor, and reflects a collaborative effort between the UN and other development partners. The Representatives of the UN agencies later managed to meet with the State Counsellor, Aung San Suu Kyi in May, where nutrition was a key topic of discussion, thanks in large part to the behind the scenes REACH work on the advocacy briefs and other advocacy efforts.

Support to nutrition champions

- **Chad**: REACH supported the development of Terms of Reference (ToR) and action plans for all SUN Networks in Chad, including the Nutrition Champions Network.
- **Guinea**: REACH supported the preparation and organization of a high-profile event on 21 September 2016, where the First Lady of Guinea, H.E. Mrs. Djené Kaba Condé, was officially nominated as a Nutrition Ambassador by the Resident Coordinator. In addition, the REACH Facilitator helped develop the TOR of the Nutrition Ambassador.
- **Nepal**: Three Nepali artists were named ‘promoters of the golden 1000 days campaign’ during a May event, which was jointly organized by the government (including the REACH-supported NNFSS), UNICEF and the EU.
- **Tanzania**: The Vice President agreed to become a nutrition champion and committed to advocate for increased nutrition funding, following his participation at the launch of the 2016 Global Nutrition Report in July, which REACH supported (providing both financial and logistical support).

Advocacy through media outlets

In 2016, REACH facilitators increasingly engaged with the media on nutrition activities.

- **Guinea**: In January, REACH helped the SUN CSN hold an advocacy day with the media to sensitize journalists on malnutrition in Guinea. Malnutrition issues were repeatedly broadcast on radio and television following this event, including five television spots with key nutrition messages. REACH contributed to the choice of themes and messaging, including messages promoted by First Lady in a film series on nutrition.
- **Nepal**: The REACH-supported NNFSS conducted an orientation with journalists on nutrition and food security issues with the Ministry of Information and Communication (June).

REACH Turns to a Local Company in Haiti to Make Noise around Food and Nutrition Security

*Group Croissance*, a private sector company with specialized expertise in communications, was recruited by REACH in September to draw attention to food and nutrition in the media. Over the next few months, *Group Croissance* worked closely with REACH facilitators to achieve the following:

- **3 TV broadcasts** on food and nutrition security, engaging government officials from different ministries (Ministry of Social Affairs [October], the Ministry of Agriculture’s Food Security Coordination Mechanism or *Coordination Nationale de la Sécurité Alimentaire* [October], and Ministry of Education [December]).
- **Newspaper coverage** in two editions of the *Le Nouvelliste* (a national daily newspaper), highlighting the importance of nutrition in emergencies and of climate change on malnutrition.
- **6 radio transmissions** on the food and nutrition security situation following hurricane Matthew. The radio broadcasts discussed the links between hunger and the different components of the Human Development Index, among other topics.
- **A workshop** with 39 journalists and students, held in mid-December at Quisqueya University, where participants were sensitized on the multi-sectoral aspects of nutrition. Presentations were made by line ministries, UN agencies, EU/ECHO, USAID and *Group Croissance*. REACH managed to convince the
Deputy of the Food Security Commission at the Chamber of Deputies to present recent amendments to the Bill of Law on a national system for food and nutrition security governance. Journalists left the workshop better equipped to advocate for scaling-up food and nutrition actions, and with a hunger for further training on the topic.

Other national nutrition advocacy efforts

In addition to the efforts mentioned above, REACH supported other national advocacy efforts, as highlighted below.

- **Haiti**: REACH facilitators, with inputs from UN agencies, developed a communications tool, explaining the links between malnutrition and the different sectors to support nutrition sensitization and planning. The publication was disseminated during the journalist workshop, and drew upon the Compendium of Actions for Nutrition and the MNO (see section 3.2).

- **Mozambique**: REACH support fostered continued advocacy in 2016, thanks in large part to the capacity development of SETSAN staff during previous years of the REACH engagement in Mozambique. For instance, SETSAN was able to maintain the active engagement of nutrition champions such as Graça Machel and Bishop Dinis Sengulane. It was also able to support advocacy efforts at the provincial level, including the organization of a nutrition gala in the Sofala Province (30 July 2016), led by the First Gentleman of the Governor.

- **Nepal**: The national “Golden 1000 days Public Awareness Campaign” was launched at an event with REACH support in April, attracting 600 participants. Led by the National Planning Commission, the campaign aims to highlight the importance of adequate nutrition from conception to a child’s second birthday. The event was attended by high-ranking government officials (e.g. the Minister of Health and Parliamentarians), donors, UN agencies, the media, artists and athletes, and was telecast live to all 75 districts. Articles profiling the launch were posted on the Nepal Nutrition and Food Security Portal, administered by the REACH-supported NNFSS.

- **Rwanda**: REACH continued to support the country’s multi-sectoral campaign, “A Thousand Days in the Land of a Thousand Hills” in 2016. Through the Swiss-funded One UN Joint Nutrition project, 1000 days messages were broadcast on local radio in the two districts (Rutsiro and Nyamagabe). The REACH facilitator and focal points travelled to the field to reinforce these radio messages through nutrition counselling provided during routine Growth Monitoring and Promotion sessions.

**Outcome 2: Strengthened national policies and programmes**

**2.1 Integration of nutrition into national development strategies/plans**

REACH supported efforts to ensure that nutrition was adequately reflected in national development strategies and plans that were being developed in 2016.

- **Burkina Faso**: The REACH team strongly advocated for the inclusion of nutrition in the 2016-2020 National Plan for Economic and Social Development (PNDES), adopted by the Council of Ministers in October. These efforts, along with similar efforts on the part of UNICEF and the EU, helped prioritize nutrition and articulate it as an essential element of human capital in the new plan. As a result, two nutrition indicators (stunting and wasting) were included in the M&E framework of the PNDES.

- **Chad**: REACH supported efforts to ensure that nutrition is a priority in the Government’s “Vision 2030” as well as in its corresponding implementation plan, completed in September.

- **Niger**: In 2016, REACH lobbied for the nutrition component to be incorporated the next five-year 3N Investment Plan (2016-2020), led by the High Commissariat of the 3N Initiative (Les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens, HC3N).
Guinea: The REACH Facilitator, along with his counterparts in the UN agencies, was engaged in efforts to ensure that nutrition is a priority in the National Plan for Economic and Social Development and the National Programme to Accelerate Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agricultural Development (both documents remain under development).

2.2 Review and enhancement of multi-sectoral National Nutrition Policy/Strategy/Action Plan

2.2.1. Nutrition policies
REACH provided facilitation support with the development or revision of national nutrition policies, with a view to ensuring that they are multi-sectoral and up-to-date. As part of these efforts, REACH helped raise awareness about the prevailing UN nutrition guidance, particularly guidance and evidence included in WHO’s E- Library of Evidence for Nutrition Actions (eLENA) and the Compendium of Actions for Nutrition (CAN). This helped promote evidence-based policy at the country level. In addition, REACH circulated existing guidance on conflict of interest to help to prevent it, including in the policy formulation process. It also worked with diverse actors to foster the implementation of national nutrition policies, as highlighted below.

Burkina Faso: The SUN Government Focal Point praised REACH for its support (analytical and facilitation) during the development of the country’s new nutrition policy. The policy was finalized during a validation workshop in early 2016, which was attended by a wide range of nutrition actors and chaired by Secretary General of the Ministry of Health. REACH facilitators have since been helping the SUN UN and Civil Society Networks advocate for the government to adopt the new policy.

Guinea: Further revisions to the national policy on food and nutrition were made in early 2016 with REACH support, including the UN agencies. The document was validated by stakeholders in February, although it remains to be adopted by the government.

Haiti: The drafting of the National Policy on Food and Nutrition Security and Sovereignty, led by the Economic and Social Development Council (Conseil de Développement Economique et Social, CDES) resumed in September. The CDES shared the document with REACH and accepted suggestions to conduct wider consultations with the UN, donors, and other stakeholders. REACH collated inputs from the UN agencies and donor community. Further work was put on hold when hurricane Matthew hit in October and the priority shifted to emergency response.

Niger: REACH facilitators supported the Government of Niger with the launch of the new national multi-sectoral nutrition security policy in January. This was the culmination of over six months of work that included REACH-facilitated sectoral and regional consultations.

Rwanda: In 2016, REACH supported the development and dissemination of policy briefs for social cluster ministries, districts and partners in an effort to step-up the implementation of the country’s existing Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan. The briefs outlined roles and responsibilities in an effort to make this information more accessible to decision-makers and other actors implicated in the operationalization of these nutrition governance frameworks.

2.2.2 Nutrition action plans
REACH supported the development or revision of national multi-sectoral nutrition action plans in multiple countries in 2016, where these processes were underway. These countries include Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Mali, Myanmar, Niger, Senegal and Tanzania. The nature of this REACH support is qualified according to the stage of the action plan in the figure to the right. Again, these efforts entailed bringing together multiple country stakeholders and facilitating multi-sectoral dialogue to ensure that the plans reflect country priorities and address the full range of nutrition challenges experienced in the

5 In other REACH countries, this work was conducted in previous years in concert with government’s timeline.
country. REACH facilitation support also proved useful in helping countries, including SUN Government Focal Points, promote coherence between governance frameworks. This included efforts to help to ensure that priorities articulated in national development strategies and plans and their supporting national policies (including the national nutrition policy) feed into national nutrition plans. Further information about the Tanzania experience is reported below while other country experiences are profiled on the REACH website.

The costed National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP 2016/17 - 2020/21) was completed and launched by the President’s Office during the Joint Multi-sectoral Nutrition Review (JMNMR) in late October. REACH actively supported multiple stages of the process - preparatory, development, and dissemination. The REACH Facilitator served on the NMNAP Steering Committee and also participated in two task forces (Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition and Multisectoral Nutrition Information System). Furthermore, the Facilitator prepared background documents for these meetings and inputs to the results framework of the above two task forces’ action plans. The facilitator also helped feed learnings from the JMNMR into the discussions about the implementation of the new plan (see output 2.3).

2.3 Integration of priority nutrition actions into work plans of relevant ministries
REACH also provided support with integrating priority nutrition actions into government sectoral plans in six REACH countries, reinforcing efforts of UN partner agencies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>REACH contributions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Burkina Faso | - Participated in the diagnostic phase, whereby REACH helped integrate nutrition into next National Programme for the Rural Sector II. REACH specifically helped identify gaps, needs and opportunities to assess the extent to which priority nutrition interventions are integrated into the CRF.  
- Participated in concurrent activities for integrating nutrition in the curricula of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and water management programmes formation |
| Chad       | - Advocacy for the inclusion of nutrition in the new National Health Policy (2016-2030); participation at its validation workshop; and support with its dissemination.  
- Supported the ongoing development of the Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy in collaboration with UNICEF and DNTA. REACH is part of the committee that was tasked with developing the strategy. |
| Mozambique | - Supported the development of planning tools used for a planning retreat (July), organized by SETSAN, which brought all ministries together to discuss the national socio-economic plan (PES). In particular, REACH helped SETSAN work with the ministries to integrate nutrition into the 2017 sector-specific PES matrix/work plan. Findings of the PPO were presented and applied during the retreat (see output 1.1). |
| Myanmar    | - Advocated for the inclusion of nutrition in the new Health Policy  
- Contributed to the drafting of the Agricultural Strategy and applications to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program fund in an effort to ensure that: (1) nutrition is strongly reflected (including the CNAs); and (2) the program is aligned to the recommendations of the zero draft plan on food and nutrition security. Furthermore, REACH stocktaking exercises are in line with this program. |
| Senegal    | - Supported the elaboration of sectoral action plans as part of the development of the multi-sectoral action plan (see output 2.2.2) |
| Tanzania   | - REACH helped organize the annual Joint Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Review (JMNMR), held in October and attended by 200+ participants from different stakeholder groups, including government (ministries, departments, agencies, regional administrations and local government authorities), UN agencies, donors, civil society, private sector, academia, research institutions and the media. The JMNMR helped to ensure that |
REACH Analytical Exercises Spark Action in Burkina Faso

The mapping of key actions and stakeholders (carried out in 2015) informed nutrition planning by identifying gaps and fuelling discussions about scale-up. REACH also presented the results of the Policy Overview (2015) during mini sectoral workshops with the Food Security, WASH, Education and Social Protection, and Health Sectors in early 2016. These workshops helped to identify opportunities for further integrating nutrition into sector-specific planning frameworks.

2.4 Integration of priority nutrition actions into relevant sub-national plans

REACH support was increasingly sought for decentralized nutrition planning processes that took place in 2016. In some cases, this prompted the adaptation of REACH tools to sub-national contexts and the training of local actors on these tools.

- **Burkina Faso**: REACH facilitators presented findings from the PPO during the second session of the National Council for Nutrition Coordination (Conseil National de Concertation en Nutrition) in December. The presentation focused on a subset of these findings, which illustrated the extent to which nutrition was integrated into selected regional and communal development plans. The presentation sparked a rich discussion and underscored the importance of using municipalities as an entry point to improving nutrition at the community level. It also prompted the Council to call a subsequent meeting with actors to reflect on the process of integrating nutrition into the communal development plans.

- **Ghana**: In 2016, REACH was called upon to support regional multi-sector, multi-stakeholder nutrition reviews (financed by SPRING), which were conducted in the Northern and Upper East regions (February). REACH helped actors prepare meeting agendas and background materials (e.g. presentations, speeches), largely drawing upon REACH analytical outputs. The facilitator also solicited the participation of key stakeholders and facilitated multiple sessions during the two-day workshops, including those related to nutrition planning.

- **Rwanda**: Together with UNICEF, REACH supported the monitoring of District Plans to Eliminate Malnutrition (DPEM) through the operationalization of the Development Information System (DevInfo). In particular, REACH helped to organize DPEM joint coordination meetings in two districts, covered by the One UN Joint Nutrition project.

- **Tanzania**: REACH supported local government authorities (LGAs) with nutrition planning and budgeting for the 2017/2018 fiscal year. Working with the TFNC, USAID and Irish Aid, REACH helped to develop methodologies and tools to support these exercises, including TORs and a checklist for facilitators and supervisors of the LGA meetings on nutrition planning and budgeting. REACH also supported preparations for advocacy meetings (in November and December), targeting local government leaders, to ensure that nutrition was prioritized in the annual district plans and budgets. Thanks in part to these REACH efforts, nutrition planning and expenditure is on the rise among LGAs and Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

nutrition was reflected in the annual work plans of relevant ministries and local government authorities. During the workshop, REACH presented the findings of the mapping exercise and provided inputs to the JMNR recommendations, including the recommendation to use the REACH mapping tool to monitor the country’s new nutrition plan.
### Outcome 3: Increased human and institutional capacity at all levels

#### 3.1 Establishment and/or functionality of multi-sector nutrition coordination mechanisms

REACH support to establish and strengthen nutrition coordination mechanisms at the country level continued to represent a core aspect of the REACH engagement in 2016. This is likely due to its neutrality, horizontal reach/network of contacts and reputable facilitation capacity. The work took different forms in different countries, based on the countries capacity needs. This helped to ensure that REACH support was tailored to the country context. In some cases, REACH carried out a prominent role in lobbying for certain institutional arrangements for nutrition collaboration platforms, while in others, it actively supported the set-up and functioning of these platforms and/or other technical level coordination mechanisms. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, REACH consistently helped country actors (e.g. SUN Government Focal Points) orchestrate meetings of the respective coordination platforms and/or mechanisms, including the preparation of meeting agendas and background materials (often leveraging REACH analytical outputs), moderation of meeting discussions, and inciting follow-up action. It also increasingly encompassed the provision of support to coordination platforms at the sub-national level. Additional insight about how some of this work was undertaken is highlighted in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>REACH support to Nutrition Coordination Mechanisms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Bangladesh     | * Defining proposals for multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder coordination architecture for nutrition  \n | Burkina Faso   | * Concerted advocacy efforts to elevate nutrition coordination to the supra-ministerial level (see output 1.4) \n | Burundi        | * Organization of sensitization meetings with Permanent Secretaries of the ministries engaged in the Food Security and Nutrition Multi-sectoral Platform, following the change in government, to guide the establishment of new technical working groups \n | Chad           | * Establishment of 5 pilot Regional Food and Nutrition Committees in selected regions in order to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the National Nutrition and Food Policy. Learning from these experiences will help replicate and scale-up the committees in other regions. \n | Ghana          | * Establishment of nutrition coordination committees in 4 districts by developing a concept note and adapting the ToR for regional coordination committees (that REACH previously helped define) to the district level \n | | | * Functioning of the district nutrition coordination committees by helping them prepare meeting agendas, background materials as well as 2016 work plans  \n
---

As part of its efforts to support operational multi-sector nutrition coordination mechanisms and coherent nutrition governance, REACH provided support to and/or collaborated with SUN networks – including the UN Network for SUN (UNN) - in 2016. Its ability to work across SUN networks was in part due to its strong presence on the ground, that fostered both close and trusted working relationships with SUN Government focal points as well as contacts with actors working in nutrition-related sectors. In addition, the facilitators were able to leverage insights from positive experiences in other REACH countries thanks to effective knowledge management.

The facilitators supported UN Networks in all REACH countries, assuming a prominent role in facilitating the completion of recommended UNN actions (see output 4.3). REACH also contributed to a broad spectrum of activities for other SUN Networks, particularly the establishment of them. It helped set-up the Parliamentarian Network in Burkina Faso (April), Burundi (September) and Mali (May), supporting the Civil Society Network with this endeavour in the latter. In Burkina Faso, REACH worked closely with WHO, to sensitize Parliamentarians about the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes (WHO, 1981) and subsequent World Health Assembly resolutions, to strengthen advocacy efforts on the topic, as well as WHO’s Essential Nutrition Actions7. REACH also helped articulate the added value of the Business Network and circulate existing guidance on conflict of interest, catalyzing the establishment of Business Networks in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Myanmar (ongoing in the latter two countries). In 2016, REACH facilitators supported similar efforts to establish an Academic Network in Mali. It also prompted SUN Networks to identify Chairs, and in turn sensitized actors about the role those Chairs

---

(UNN included). For instance, REACH encouraged the EU to become the Chair of the Donor Network in Burkina Faso, which assumed this role in September.

REACH also worked to bring the respective SUN Networks together, particularly in Chad and Myanmar. In Chad, REACH support was mobilized to help the National Nutrition and Food Technology Directorate organize an inter-network workshop on 13-14 October 2016 to promote synergies and efficiencies across networks. The workshop culminated in the development of an inter-network action plan, which will help Chad’s Permanent Technical Committee on Nutrition and Food to promote a coherent, multi-sectoral approach. Overall, these REACH efforts helped to create an enabling environment for vibrant SUN Networks and collaboration between them.

3.2 Strengthening of institutional and human capacity for nutrition in government

In 2016, REACH continued to provide valuable support to SUN country processes. Again, this entailed support with the organization and facilitation of multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder meetings. Similar support was also provided for the annual SUN self-assessment exercise, periodic SUN country network calls as well as the participation of government delegations (including preparations) at international meetings and conferences (see section 4.3). These REACH efforts as well as those highlighted under output 3.1 were reinforced with others that help steer nutrition governance capacity development.

REACH supported a nutrition governance capacity gap assessment that was undertaken in conjunction with the World Bank and UNICEF in Senegal, starting in May. The assessment encompassed the institutional and functional capacities of the country’s nutrition coordination unit (CLM) and sectoral ministries, including at decentralized levels. As part of this exercise, REACH drafted a Plan of Action on how to enhance the country’s nutrition capacity, which was integrated in the greater capacity assessment report.

Different types of training were provided over the course of 2016, which strengthened individual quantitative skills and soft skills to support good nutrition governance. These include training on REACH analytical tools and methodologies (Ghana, Mali, Mozambique and Tanzania), planning and budgeting (Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Tanzania), coordination (Ghana and Mali), and implementation tracking (Mozambique). A few country examples are illustrated below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Coaching</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ghana</strong>: During the second and third quarters of 2016, the National Facilitator trained government nutrition departments in three northern regions as well as regional nutrition coordination committees and district staff on how to undertake the MNO, including the development of Nutrition Situation Analysis Dashboards. Similar efforts were carried out for REACH’s SUN PMT tool, thereby building district capacity (including members of the sub-national nutrition coordination committees) to collect mapping data. Not only did these efforts empower these actors to use these tools for the above multi-sectoral exercises but it also facilitated a smooth transfer of these analytical functions post-REACH.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tanzania</strong>: A number of actors were trained on the REACH SUN PMT tool, including twenty national facilitators from the TFNC and Ministry of Health-based nutrition teams. The national facilitators, in turn, organized an orientation for Regional and District Nutrition Officers on the district version of the tool. In addition, REACH trained TFNC and PANITA staff on how to enter population data into the tool in order to calculate population coverage – a key output of the exercise.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Burkina Faso: The Directorate of Nutrition, with REACH support, updated guidance documents for relevant sectors to better capture Burkina Faso's nutrition commitments. This guidance informed the development of the new National Plan for Economic and Social Development.

Mozambique: REACH helped refine a template for the provincial PAMRDCs (Multi-sectoral Action Plan for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition), with a view to standardizing budgetary and reporting exercises and aligning the provincial PAMRDC objectives to the national PAMRDC.

Ghana: REACH conducted orientation sessions for members of the nutrition coordination committee in four pilot districts of the northern regions, where it provided tips and guidance on establishing and supporting functional nutrition coordination committees at the district level.

Mali: REACH facilitators briefed the staff of the new coordination cell on the nutrition coordination situation in-country (e.g. stakeholders, institutional arrangements, protocols and procedures) as well as on the SUN Movement and REACH.

Mozambique: In 2016, REACH supported SETSAN to design training materials on PAMRDC implementation tracking, targeting provincial SETSAN staff and technical advisers. In addition to this REACH support, it developed the implementation tracking methodology and tool in previous years of the REACH engagement.

3.3 Knowledge-sharing network for exchange of good programming practices

REACH carried out a range of knowledge-sharing (KS) activities at the country level in 2016, namely: cross-country exchanges; the profiling of REACH experiences in reputed nutrition publications; the development and administration of knowledge-sharing portals; and other efforts. A few examples of these contributions are listed below.

- The REACH team in Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the counterparts in Chad, facilitated a virtual cross-country exchange, bringing together the Parliamentarian Networks of the two countries. In particular, the Burkina colleagues learned about the Chad experience with regards to the role of parliamentarians in scaling-up nutrition as well as the organization of the Parliamentarian Workshop and National Nutrition Forum (2015).

- The Mali International Facilitator travelled to Burkina Faso to help REACH facilitators there organize an inter-agency retreat to develop a UN Network Strategy/Agenda.

- The REACH-supported NNFSS in Nepal organized a study visit for a delegation from Tajikistan to learn about how multi-sectoral nutrition governance processes are undertaken in Nepal. The Tajik delegation was comprised of representatives from the Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Education, Economic Development and Finance, UN agencies and USAID.

- REACH supported the organization of the SUN Civil Society Network learning route exchange, launched in Rwanda on 30 October 2016. The event was attended by CSO alliances from eleven countries. REACH facilitated the session on the REACH-supported mapping exercise that was completed in Rwanda (2015).

- Burkina Faso: REACH, in collaboration with the SUN Government Focal Point, drafted an article on how the stakeholder and nutrition action mapping was undertaken for publication in a scientific journal.
Myanmar: The UN Resident Coordinator’s office developed a UN Myanmar country website, with all agencies submitting content. REACH facilitated the content development of the Food and Nutrition Security section. In addition, REACH worked with the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) to create a dedicated webpage on the country’s UNN with two portals (private and public). The private portal was launched in late 2016, providing a space for UNN members to view and provide feedback on all documents.

Nepal: In 2016, new and updated materials continued to be posted to the Nepal Nutrition and Food Security Portal (launched in 2015) by the NNFSS thanks to REACH support, even after the departure of the REACH facilitator.

REACH participated in various nutrition events, workshops and meetings in an effort to foster knowledge-sharing. Below are few examples of national meetings that REACH participated in and/or supported in 2016. REACH engagement in international nutrition events is highlighted in section 4.3.

Burkina Faso: REACH participated in an advocacy workshop organized by FAO, in collaboration with the Polytechnic University of Bobo, to introduce nutrition into the curricula of universities and vocational schools in the country. During the workshop, REACH provided an overview of the nutrition governance situation in the country.

Mali: Together with the technical partners group, REACH helped Mali’s Commission on Food Security organize a national forum on nutrition and food security, with a focus on emergency response (January). The event helped actors gain a better understanding of the determinants of food and nutrition insecurity in the country and the existing tools to prevent and manage food crises in light of new challenges. Chaired by the Prime Minister, the forum brought together nearly 150 participants, including government ministries, REACH, UN agencies, IASC clusters members and civil society.

Senegal: The CLM, UNICEF and REACH jointly organized a high-profile event (‘All united for nutrition’), which was held on 6 June 2016. The workshop brought together 75 participants, including technical staff from the CLM, sectoral ministries, UN agencies, donors, civil society, the media, the private sector and the economic council to exchange experiences and discuss recent nutrition developments at the global and national levels. The National Facilitator presented how REACH is supporting SUN process in-country. In addition to the valuable knowledge exchange, the event fostered coherence among nutrition stakeholders and mobilized support for implementing the country’s new nutrition policy and developing its corresponding strategic plan.

Outcome 4: Increased effectiveness and accountability

4.1 Multi-sectoral responsibilities and accountability matrix

As part of the development of the multi-sectoral action plans, REACH supported the elaboration of M&E/common results frameworks (CRF) in five countries in 2016. This work required the active engagement of multiple sectors and actors. It was also an opportunity to bolster buy-in from diverse actors as well as to foster accountability among them. Again, REACH’s ability to bring actors together and facilitate complex multi-sectoral, nutrition governance processes proved highly useful.

Burkina Faso: The development of a CRF for the reduction of chronic malnutrition (initiated in 2015) was finalized and validated by all stakeholders in 2016. Mini-workshops with the Health, Food Security, WASH, Education and Social Protection sectors were organized under the leadership of the SUN Government Focal Point/Director of Nutrition within the Ministry of Health. These
sectoral discussions, facilitated by REACH, contributed to the refinement of the CRF and increased ownership through better representation of the key sectors.

- **Chad & Guinea**: A logical framework for the national multi-sectoral nutrition plan was completed with REACH support in both countries.
- **Niger**: In 2016, REACH continued to support the revision of Niger’s CRF, with a view to aligning it to the new nutrition policy and strategic plan.
- **Tanzania**: REACH actively participated in working sessions to develop the CRF for the country’s new nutrition plan, both developed and adopted in 2016. This resulted in selected REACH analytical exercises (e.g. mapping and PPO) being embedded into the action plan under the nutrition governance thematic area (see output 1.1).

4.2 Creation, implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition monitoring system and linkages to accountability

REACH support in this area encompassed two work streams: implementation tracking and financial tracking. The implementation tracking support provided in 2016 was largely a continuation of efforts that were set in motion during previous years of the REACH engagement (see output 2.3 and 4.1 for highlights from Tanzania). However, REACH support with respect to financial tracking on nutrition transcended its typical ‘broker’ role in two countries (Mali and Mozambique), where it was called upon to provide substantive support. In other REACH countries (e.g. Burkina Faso), the facilitators merely contributed to discussions regarding methodology so as to promote coherence with other nutrition governance processes (e.g. nutrition planning).

**REACH Provides Support for Both Implementation and Financial Tracking in Mozambique**

Using the implementation tracking mechanism that REACH created in 2014, REACH helped SETSAN prepare a report on the state of PAMRDC activities and present it to the Consultative Council (based in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security), which approved the report (July). At the request of SETSAN, REACH also developed a potential financial tracking tool in order to help link implementation tracking indicators with expenditures per PAMRDC activity. The financial tracking exercise was piloted in three sectors in 2016, namely: Agriculture; Public Works; and Social Action.

In Mali, REACH conducted a series of meetings with the technical services responsible for implementing the multi-sectoral nutrition action plan. The aim was to analyze 2015 funding allocations to nutrition by government ministries, donors, and UN agencies in support of the implementation of the action plan. While this exercise commenced in late 2015, it was completed in 2016. REACH developed a template, capturing this financial information for each activity, which was shared with all key actors. It subsequently analyzed the data and presented the results to the Inter-sectoral Technical Committee for Nutrition. The analysis elucidated a high variance in funding levels for the respective axes of the national plan, prompting further discussion during the Mid-term Review of the plan (see output 2.2).

4.3 Strengthening of UN efforts in nutrition

As previously noted, REACH facilitators provided instrumental support to the UNN in **all** REACH countries. They were able to create an environment, whereby the UN partner agencies could engage in nutrition collaboration at the same level. This, in turn, enabled each agency to better leverage its added value, and was particularly exemplary in Burkina Faso, Chad, Haiti, Mozambique, Myanmar and Tanzania. Where REACH is being implemented, there is increased willingness and interest for the UN agencies to improve coherence and alignment.
REACH facilitators also played a prominent role in facilitating the completion of recommended UNN actions, most notably the work undertaken on the UN Nutrition Inventory (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar [updated], Rwanda, Senegal and Tanzania [ongoing]) and the UN Nutrition Strategy (Burkina Faso and Mozambique). While in all countries at least the four REACH partner agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WHO and WFP) were involved in this exercise, IFAD, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNDP and IAEA were also engaged in other countries. In Burkina Faso, the work on the UN Nutrition Strategy engaged FAO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. REACH also facilitated UN retreats on nutrition in Burkina Faso, Myanmar and Rwanda, with the former ultimately feeding into the development of the UN Nutrition Strategy. The Myanmar event was funded and facilitated by REACH, and brought together 55 participants from FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNOPS, WFP, World Bank, the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office and UN Network/REACH Secretariat. These tools (e.g. UN Nutrition Inventory) and processes (e.g. retreats, development of UN Nutrition Strategy) have helped to lay the foundation for delivering as one UN. Moreover, REACH facilitators helped foster UNN accountability by bringing together the UNN colleagues to help prepare the UNN’s inputs to the SUN country joint assessments. These contributions illustrate how REACH human resources proved to be an asset to the UNNs at the country level.

Additionally, the suite of REACH analytical tools well positioned REACH countries to complete multi-sectoral nutrition analyses and other outputs defined by the UNN results framework. This is important to highlight and consistent with strategic repositioning of REACH, as articulated in the new UNN strategy. 2016 was the first year that REACH work directly contributed to the new UNN results framework. Further information about how REACH strengthened these efforts and other UN nutrition efforts is being documented through the 2016 UNN Reporting Exercise (report forthcoming).

Refer to Annex 1 for details on country progress and Annex 2 for country nutrition and coverage indicators.

3. Secretariat Support to REACH Countries

3.1 Facilitator Support

In 2016, the UNN/REACH Secretariat continued to provide analytical and oversight support to facilitators in an effort to complete REACH deliverables. This support involved a mix of learning-by-doing and structured training sessions. Monthly teleconferences were organized with the facilitators, providing a forum for cross-country knowledge exchanges as well as a channel through which information could be shared between the country and global levels. In addition, bilateral calls (including coaching calls on specific REACH tools and exercises) were scheduled on an ad hoc basis to discuss specific deliverables and/or issues, thereby guiding the REACH process. Country visits were also conducted to support nutrition governance processes (e.g. nutrition planning) and transition discussions at key stages of the REACH country engagements.

---

9 Data has been gathered for the Canada-funded countries where REACH was operational in 2016.
In addition, the Secretariat arranged for facilitators to participate in ‘The Art of Stakeholder Collaboration’ Seminar held on 14-17 March 2016 in Gorée Island, Senegal. The seminar provided an opportunity for participating facilitators (from Burkina Faso, Burundi, Guinea, Haiti and Mali) to build skills for stakeholder engagement, dialogue, and collaboration processes in pursuit of high impact solutions. Facilitators subsequently applied the learnings and insights from this training to multi-sectoral nutrition governance processes being undertaken in their respective countries, such as the dynamic national and sub-national nutrition planning processes in Burkina Faso and the mid-term review of Mali’s MultiSectoral Action Plan (2014-2018).

3.2 Tools and Guidance
The Secretariat also updated and refined various REACH tools and the supporting guidance to keep pace with developments in the wider nutrition community and meet the demand for these enhancements. For instance, the Situation Analysis Dashboard template was updated, whereby the prevalence of child overweight was added as an indicator to align with WHO publications, such as its WHA Global Nutrition Targets 2025: Childhood Overweight Policy Brief, Global reference list of 100 core health indicators and the WHA Global Nutrition Targets for 2025. The Multi-sectoral Policy Overview template was also updated as part of a greater effort to refine the methodology in order to encompass the planning work stream in response to country demand. The exercise was subsequently renamed to Multi-sectoral Policy and Plan Overview, which was undertaken in multiple countries in 2016 (see section 1.1).

Development of a web-based version of the SUN PMT was initiated, with a view to making it more user-friendly and conferring automated data analysis functions. In the meantime, the guidance on the existing Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping tool (SUN PMT) was refined in 2016 to help users use the Excel-based tool.

The Secretariat also published other resources to support multi-sectoral nutrition processes, including the Compendium of Actions for Nutrition (CAN). Following a dynamic participative process with multiple experts and the partner agencies, the Secretariat finalized the CAN in 2016. The compendium was first conceptualized as a resource for REACH facilitators to help them foster multi-sectoral dialogue at the country level, particularly on nutrition-related policy formulation and planning. It was later expanded to a wider audience in view of the high demand for a practical resource of this sort. The CAN includes matrices of potential multi-sectoral nutrition actions (both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions), classified by the type of evidence available for them, as well as accompanying narratives and bibliographies. Hence, the CAN is a crucial reference for countries as they work to identify what actions are most relevant to their context and to prioritize actions that each sector can take to maximize nutrition impact.

Launched by the SUN Global Coordinator in November, the CAN was disseminated through 30-plus channels, including the International Symposium on Sustainable Food Systems for Healthy Diets and Improved Nutrition, held in early December at FAO Headquarters. It was profiled as a ‘must read’ on SecureNutrition in addition to being featured in other communications and knowledge-sharing platforms, such as IFPRI’s Knowledge and Innovation Hub. Leading nutrition experts also tweeted about the CAN, reinforcing other dissemination efforts.
Most importantly, actors moved swiftly to apply the CAN at the country level in 2016. In Haiti, it was used to guide nutrition sensitization efforts with journalists and government staff in nutrition-related ministries and the subsequent sector planning, both undertaken during the second semester. The CAN was also leveraged in Myanmar, where it helped inform the government-led process of selecting CNAs with multiple stakeholders.

Similarly, the Secretariat developed a Nutrition Capacity Assessment Guidance Package, comprised of a Guidance Note and supporting Tools and Resources. It also refined the guidance package on the UN Nutrition Inventory and UN Nutrition Strategy, which is available in three languages.

3.3 Monitoring & Evaluation

Regular monitoring measures were implemented, such as monitoring missions and bi-annual monitoring calls to take stock of progress supported by REACH at the country level (see section 3.1).

During 2016, actions were also undertaken to address all of the recommendations articulated by the independent external evaluation of REACH, completed in 2015. The evaluation and ensuing recommendations encompassed the REACH approach as well as the functions of the Secretariat and country engagements in the Canada-funded Generation 1 countries from 2011 to 2015.

Preliminary discussions were held with the WFP Office of Evaluation (OEV) regarding the 2017 REACH evaluation on Canada-funded Generation 2 countries\(^\text{10}\) and Mali, since the REACH engagement in Mali was extended through the second REACH grant from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). These discussions culminated in the preparation of a concept note, which provided an overview of the evaluation’s approach and a timeline of events. The outline was shared with OEV in mid-December for their feedback.

4. Knowledge Management and Communications

4.1 Annual Meeting

REACH colleagues gathered with other UN colleagues and actors, engaged in the SUN Movement, in late November to exchange good practices and reflect upon progress made, common challenges, and the way forward in the evolving nutrition community. The three-day workshop (28-30 November 2016) was held in Rome and had a strong turnout, including REACH facilitators (international and national) from ten of the eleven REACH countries, the REACH Regional Facilitator, the SUN Movement Global Coordinator, members of the SUN country liaison team and representatives of the SUN Civil Society Network, United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) and donors, among others. The meeting helped participants gain a better understanding of the UN Network for SUN Strategy 2016-2020, particularly the role of REACH in the UNN at country level. Facilitators shared their increasing experiences in supporting the functioning of UNN at country level. Similarly, the meeting helped to consolidate lessons learned and knowledge management between REACH and other global (including UN) initiatives related to nutrition. Participants also recognized the importance of leveraging partners (especially other SUN networks) for enhanced sustainability.

\(^{10}\) Generation 2 countries were not part of the 2015 independent external evaluation given the short implementation period that would have been applicable, understanding that the grant for Generation 2 countries was signed in 2014.
4.2 Knowledge-Sharing/Communications Platforms

Newly developed and updated REACH materials such as guidance and tools were posted on the ‘internal’ REACH Knowledge-Sharing Portal, as they became available in 2016. In addition, REACH news stories were highlighted on the REACH website. The year also invoked introspection on existing REACH knowledge-sharing and communications platforms (e.g. Knowledge-Sharing Portal and website) in concert with its evolving strategic directions, outlined in the new UNN strategy. A mini review was undertaken to ensure the continued relevance of these platforms. This culminated in a decision to restructure the REACH website, so that it: (1) presents REACH within the broader context of the UNN; (2) makes REACH materials – resources and country deliverables – more readily accessible; and (3) improves complementarity with other existing knowledge-sharing platforms (e.g. SCN, ENN, SUN). Preparations for that endeavour were initiated at the end of 2016, including the development of the architecture for the revamped website.

The Secretariat also prepared and shared regular e-Communications with REACH facilitators, UNN focal points at headquarters, Nutrition Regional Advisers as well as members of the UNN/REACH Steering Committee to further increase knowledge-sharing among REACH colleagues and partners at all levels. These e-Communications covered REACH achievements and also highlighted recent and forthcoming developments within the UNN and wider nutrition community. They also helped give visibility to REACH deliverables throughout the year.

4.3 Contributions to International Nutrition Dialogue

The added value of REACH was increasingly acknowledged by the nutrition community, particularly among individuals working on nutrition governance. Actors looked to engage REACH in international nutrition meetings convened in 2016, as captured below. In particular, REACH colleagues (facilitators and members of the Secretariat) supported the preparation of background materials and other inputs presented during these meetings – often ‘behind the scenes’— such as:

- Inputs for SUN Country Network calls, working closely with SUN Government focal points and UN colleagues, to showcase country experiences related to the themes of these calls;
- The analysis of nutrition budgetary expenditures and allocations in Nepal completed by the REACH-supported NNFSS in preparation for the Public Financing for Nutrition Asia workshop;
- Country presentations on government commitment to nutrition (Burkina Faso, Chad and Mozambique) in preparation for the Public Financing for Nutrition Africa workshop. In addition, the UNN/REACH Secretariat also helped bridge the UN’s work in this area, with costing and/or financial expenditure methodologies supported by FAO and WHO showcased during the meeting;
- Posters on Guinea’s nutrition situation exhibited during the Micronutrient Forum Global Conference (2016);
- Presentation on REACH experiences with strengthening nutrition governance, leveraging work on a joint-paper with experts from Columbia University, as part of the session on Stories of Change in Nutrition;
- Presentation on REACH as part of a panel on nutrition initiatives during the workshop on Repositioning Nutrition as a Factor for Development in National Priorities (Brazzaville);
- REACH facilitators (Burkina Faso) moderated and facilitated panel discussions on the review of international and regional commitments as well as on progress towards national nutrition targets and the importance of accountability.

The extensive preparatory work carried out by REACH was often matched with active participation during these meetings, providing visibility to these experiences. REACH was also called upon to support follow-up activities. For instance, the World Bank encouraged Mozambique to apply for an upcoming loan after having seen the Mozambique presentation at the Public Financing for Nutrition workshop in Nairobi. The National Facilitator helped SETSAN complete the questionnaire in a participatory manner, which was part of the application process.
5. Partnerships and Collaboration

5.1 UN Agencies

Partnership is an integral part of REACH’s work since it is by nature an inter-agency initiative. Further to the valuable UN agency contributions to the achievements reported above, the UN agencies provided both in-kind staffing and financial contributions at global and country levels in 2016. WFP continued to host and provide financial and human resources to the Secretariat (e.g. seconded WFP staff such as the Global Coordinator and Administrative Assistant). It also continued to host REACH facilitators in most country offices (Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar, Senegal and Tanzania). Furthermore, UNICEF hosted the facilitator in Rwanda. In Mali, REACH Agencies (WFP, FAO, UNICEF and WHO) pooled resources and provided office furniture and equipment in order to set up the new nutrition coordination cell. A cost-sharing arrangement between REACH and UNICEF enabled the recruitment of a consultant that completed REACH stock-taking exercises (e.g. Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, Nutrition Stakeholder and Activity Mapping) in Myanmar. REACH also implemented a nutrition capacity gap assessment in Senegal jointly with UNICEF and World Bank in 2016. In Haiti, REACH worked closely with the UNICEF Communications team on the graphics of the sensitization tool, highlighting actions that ministries can undertake to address the country’s nutrition problems (see output 1.4). In addition to working with the UN partner agencies, REACH strengthened its ties with the UNSCN following UNSCN’s relocation to Rome in early 2016. This facilitated regular exchanges with the UNSCN colleagues and complementarity between the two UN nutrition platforms.

5.2 Other Actors

In 2016, REACH continued to collaborate with a range of other stakeholders, including individuals from academia and research institutions, the private sector and NGOs. The Secretariat engaged with the DHIS2 expert community to develop online tools (SUN-PMT and UN Nutrition Inventory). It also recruited interns from Tufts University (The Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy) and Columbia University (School of International and Public Affairs) to support REACH activities in three countries, namely: Mozambique, Myanmar and Tanzania. Finally, the Secretariat started to collaborate with the Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN) in 2016 in an effort to strengthen knowledge-management synergies and minimize duplication of efforts at the global and country levels. Regular exchanges were also held with the CSN Secretariat, including their participation at REACH Annual Gathering.

6. REACH Transition and Sustainability

6.1 Transition and Sustainability for Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar, Senegal and Mali

2016 was a year of marked transition in the Generation 1 countries with the exception of Mali for the reasons previously stated. During 2017, REACH will undergo a similar transition process in some or all of the following countries, namely: Burkina Faso, Haiti, Mali, Myanmar and Senegal. The transition is prompted by the planned expiry of the Canadian funding in those countries although it is hoped that an extension will be obtained for some countries. Transition and sustainability plans are developed in an effort to embed REACH functions in national nutrition governance processes. It is expected that the UN Networks in country will provide continued support on nutrition governance given that country UN networks will remain in place after the conclusion of REACH. UN Networks are expected to include this work in a 2017 work plan with clearly defined priorities, budgets and responsibilities, including the identification of lead agencies for planned UNN activities in 2017.

---

11 In 2016, transition and sustainability plans were also updated for Generation 1 countries, namely: Bangladesh, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger Rwanda and Uganda.
The Secretariat will provide some remote support for activities undertaken in these countries following the conclusion of the respective REACH country engagements supported by GAC (post-2017). Specific country requests will be addressed on a cost recovery basis and country progress will be monitored through the UNN (post-REACH). Efforts are in place to mobilize resources for continued engagement in the current countries as well as for implementing REACH in new countries (see below).

7. Emerging Issues

7.1 Demand for nutrition governance support
There is growing demand for REACH support, with fifteen countries having requested REACH ‘extensive’ support and others selected services (e.g. mapping). In addition, the UNN/REACH Secretariat worked (ongoing) with SMS and other SUN network facilitators to identify countries, which would benefit from REACH-like support to ensure progress on SUN processes and priorities. This country analysis was prepared by the UNN/REACH Secretariat, and is based on SUN joint assessment data and the knowledge of the respective SUN networks.

7.2 REACH Funding
GAC has provided substantial funding for REACH since 2011. The Canadian funding is set to expire at the end of 2017 (extension in time to be requested). New funding was secured from Irish Aid (EUR 1 million) in December 2016, with the potential for multi-year funding. In addition, the EU provided initial funding to support continued REACH activities in Chad (EUR 550,000) up to April 2018, recognizing the value-added that REACH brings to multi-sectoral nutrition governance processes in the country.

In spite of this new funding, there will be a funding shortage after the end of the 2017 unless additional funds are mobilized. This imminent funding situation will undermine REACH’s ability to support additional countries. Given the documented role of REACH in the SUN Movement\(^\text{12}\), a potential REACH funding shortfall would also hinder its ability to actively support SUN Government focal points and SUN processes. This would be unfortunate in view of the progress and momentum exhibited in current REACH countries, and the demand for REACH support expressed by other countries.

In terms of funding for the UNN/REACH Secretariat, WFP has indicated its willingness to host the UNN/REACH through and beyond 2017 and efforts are on-going to obtain financial contributions from the other UN partner agencies to support, through central budgets, the continued functioning of the UNN/REACH Secretariat.

7.3 Evolving Global Nutrition Landscape
Nutrition has received considerable attention from the international community in the recent years, giving rise to a plethora of agendas, initiatives, movements, platforms and programmes. These include, but are not limited to: the Sustainable Development Goals outlined by the Agenda 2030; the SUN Movement; the Zero Hunger Challenge; the Second International Conference on Nutrition’s Rome Declaration on Nutrition and its Framework for Action; the Committee on World Food Security; and most recently, the Decade of Action on Nutrition. While these efforts are largely complementary and have helped to keep nutrition on the political agenda, they have contributed to perceived crowding and complexity of the global nutrition landscape, posing challenges to coordination. This underscores the importance of communicating on how these efforts are linked and complementary to avoid confusion, particularly among the actors at country level.

Additional funding is being made available at the country level through the Micronutrient Initiative and Power of Nutrition, among others. Increased investment in nutrition is needed in view of the high economic and social costs of malnutrition. While some funding supports the implementation of

technical nutrition interventions, other funding is devoted to improving nutrition governance. This has resulted in increased needs for effective coordination. As one of the first actors to provide support for strengthening multi-sectoral nutrition coordination, REACH remains well positioned to support this work. For this reason, many countries – including SUN Government focal points – are continuing to look to REACH to help them strengthen multi-sectoral nutrition coordination around the scale-up of nutrition.

8. Priorities for 2017
The following list summaries key priorities for 2017.

- Ongoing support to 12 REACH countries as well backstopping of 59 UN Networks in SUN Countries
- Strengthen country engagements through using the results of the REACH Evaluation in Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar, Senegal and Mali
- Sustainable transition out of countries where REACH funding is ending
- Strengthened Knowledge Management and Communications, including an updated website and KS portal
- Support UN agencies to increase synergies in terms of support to national governments including through joint approaches and programming
- Support to SUN processes at the country level, including the establishment/strengthening of other SUN Networks
- Mobilize additional funding to respond to country demand and ensure functioning of the global UNN/REACH Secretariat
- Support continued and strengthened commitment to the SUN Movement by the new leadership of UN partner agencies as well as increased senior level engagement and accountability for the UN Network for SUN
- Define the role of the UN Network/REACH vis-à-vis the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) both in terms of country level actions emanating from the 2014 Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), in both SUN and non-SUN countries, as well as in terms of supporting communication and reporting as the Decade’s programme of work is defined and gains momentum.