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<tr>
<td>3N</td>
<td>Les Nigériens Nourissent les Nigériens (Nigerians Nourish Nigerians)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANI</td>
<td>Accelerating Nutrition Improvements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCG</td>
<td>The Boston Consulting Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNA</td>
<td>Core Nutrition Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COHA</td>
<td>Cost of Hunger in Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Civil Society Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHIS2</td>
<td>District Health Information System, Version 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAC</td>
<td>Global Affairs Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAD</td>
<td>International Fund for Agricultural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFPRI</td>
<td>International Food Policy and Research Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M&amp;E</td>
<td>Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSNP</td>
<td>Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NNFSS</td>
<td>National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAMRDC</td>
<td>Multi-sectoral Action Plan for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition</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</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>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>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHO</td>
<td>World Health Organization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Key achievements in 2015

**COUNTRY LEVEL**

- **Multi-sectoral analytical exercises** such as Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, Policy Overview and/or Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping enriching nutrition governance processes at national and/or sub-national levels (e.g. Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Haiti, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda)

- **Investment cases** being used to advocate for nutrition (e.g. Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and Uganda)

- **Momentum for joint advocacy and communication** at country level, including:
  - Completion/launch of national advocacy & communication strategies (e.g. Nepal, Tanzania, Uganda)
  - Support to national nutrition advocacy campaigns, TV interviews and other events (e.g. Bangladesh, Chad, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda and Uganda)
  - Advocacy efforts targeting Parliamentarians (e.g. Burundi, Chad, Ghana and Nepal)
  - Identification of nutrition champions (e.g. Chad and Mozambique)

- **Mobilisation of stakeholders and facilitation support to review/formulate national multi-sectoral:**
  - Nutrition policies (e.g. Burkina Faso, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda)
  - Nutrition action plans (e.g. Chad, Ghana, Guinea and Myanmar)

- **Planning with scale-up discussions** facilitated at sub-national level (e.g. Ghana, Nepal, Niger and Uganda)

- **Setting-up of coordination structures** at national (e.g. Mali) and sub-national (e.g. Burkina Faso and Guinea) levels

- **Nutrition governance capacity gap assessments** conducted (e.g. Nepal and Niger)

- **Establishment of knowledge-sharing platforms** for multi-sectoral nutrition actions
  - Nutrition information portal (e.g. Nepal)
  - Nutrition information platforms (e.g. Rwanda and Tanzania)
  - Organisation of high-level knowledge-sharing events (e.g. Chad and Uganda)

- **REACH expansion** to two new countries: Myanmar and Guinea

**GLOBAL LEVEL**

- **Refinement/development of REACH tools and guidance**
  - Refinement of Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview
  - Refinement of REACH Policy Overview template
  - Review of Scaling-Up Nutrition Planning and Monitoring (mapping) Tool and completion of guidance materials
  - Development of nutrition planning guidance
  - Development of guidance for facilitating the selection of Core Nutrition Actions

- **Completion of REACH inter-agency external evaluation** with successes highlighted as well as key lessons

- **Initiation of REACH 2.0 strategy development** taking into account recommendations from evaluation

- **Development of sustainability strategies** for seven countries (Bangladesh, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) where Canadian funding is ending

- **Initiation and dissemination of monthly REACH e-Communications** to foster knowledge-sharing among REACH facilitators and UN colleagues

- **Regular updates posted on REACH website**, including new general webpages on REACH country engagements and periodic web articles, and REACH Knowledge Sharing Portal (e.g. updated guidance, country examples)

- **Strengthening of ‘UN delivering as One’ approach**, including the increased role of REACH in the UN Network for SUN
  - Support for the establishment of the UN Network for SUN in REACH countries
  - Development of tools and templates of recommended actions and support of their roll-out to countries (see Annex for more details)
1. Introduction

The REACH - Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition - Initiative was established by the four UN agencies: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and World Food Programme (WFP) in 2008. It was joined later by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which plays an advisory role at the global level. REACH is committed to meeting the nutrition needs of the world’s most vulnerable children and women, through data-driven facilitation support that builds government institutional capacity, enriches policy and planning processes and prioritizes scarce resources. REACH also promotes UN agencies involved in nutrition to work more harmoniously and collaboratively together, and played an increased role in the UN Network for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement in 2015, both at global and country levels.

While REACH and the UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN) co-facilitated the global UN Network for SUN (herein UN Network) in the past, REACH officially assumed the leadership of the UN Network and started serving as its Secretariat in early 2015. The transformation of the REACH Secretariat into a dual UN Network for SUN/REACH Secretariat reflects an effort to better respond to countries’ needs for support with UN coordination and multi-sectoral nutrition governance - beyond the existing REACH countries. This development comes at a time when there is increased awareness and commitment to addressing malnutrition in all its forms among the international community at large, as affirmed by the endorsement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN Global Nutrition Agenda (2015) and the existence of complementary alliances, movements, initiatives and calls to actions. The Secretariat was also able to leverage REACH’s reputed analytical capacity to develop a series of new UN Network tools and templates in consultation with UN partners. At the country level, REACH proved to be a valuable resource for piloting and facilitating the completion of the new, recommended UN Network actions (e.g. UN Nutrition Inventory, UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda, UN Network Dashboard) in REACH countries. Further information about UN Network achievements is highlighted in the Annex.

In view of the unprecedented focus on scaling-up nutrition actions, there has been a rising demand for REACH support, particularly among SUN countries. REACH engagements continued in fifteen countries while in Myanmar and Guinea REACH was initiated in 2015 with international and national facilitators recruited in both countries. Additional demand for REACH support (facilitation and analytical) has been expressed by national governments and/or UN agencies in seventeen countries.

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1 These include but are not limited to: the SUN Movement; Zero Hunger Challenge; World Health Assembly (WHA) target; Rome Declaration on Nutrition and Framework for Action (main outcome documents of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, ICN2).
2 These seventeen countries are: Benin, Cambodia, Comoros, Côte d’Ivoire, DRC, Gambia, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Pakistan, Republic of the Congo, Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
2. Country Progress against the four REACH Outcomes

This section presents progress for seventeen countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, where REACH was actively engaged in 2015, starting with broad considerations that are followed by detailed reporting vis-à-vis the REACH outcomes. The implementation of REACH in these countries was possible thanks to the generous support of Global Affairs Canada¹ (GAC), the European Union (EU) and the UN, as broken down below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donors</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canada - Generation 1</td>
<td>Bangladesh, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania &amp; Uganda (funded via the first Canadian grant agreement, signed in 2011)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada - Generation 2</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, Haiti, Myanmar &amp; Senegal (financed through the second Canadian grant agreement, signed in 2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>Niger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia &amp; Guinea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The successive sub-sections report progress towards the respective REACH deliverables for the four REACH outcomes. All country achievements are a result of partnership, leveraging the expertise of UN partner agencies with the added value of REACH facilitators, who are supported by the UN Network/REACH Secretariat.

**Outcome 1: Increased awareness and consensus of stakeholders**

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

In 2015, a number of REACH countries received support with the scoping exercises such as the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Overview, Policy Overview and Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping (see Table 1 for details). These have continued to enrich nutrition governance processes. Efforts were taken to position the Policy Overview and the Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping as a greater mapping exercise of the nutrition landscape. According to the REACH external evaluation⁴, the REACH stakeholder mapping was one of the most visible deliverables of REACH at the country level:

‘...the stakeholder mapping activity was appreciated in most countries...It was considered critical in bringing about a broad information-sharing process. It was also seen as instrumental in guiding decision-making regarding geographic targeting of interventions and resource allocation. The enthusiasm for the mapping is illustrated by the fact that [Country Case Studies] found the most visible and talked about activity of REACH in Rwanda, Tanzania and Mozambique was the work in these countries on stakeholder and activity mapping...’


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¹ GAC was formerly known as DFATD - Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development, Canada.

The Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview (formerly known as Nutrition Analysis) is a stock-taking exercise that brings together and repackages existing data across the sectors relevant to nutrition, in order to establish a common understanding of the nutrition situation in a given country and its immediate, underlying and basic causes. Situation Analysis Dashboards summarise key nutrition-related indicators, showcasing the magnitude and severity of nutrition problems, as well as their trends over time.

The nutrition overview was drafted in Burundi and Haiti, whereas in Guinea a situation analysis dashboard only was drafted. While in Uganda the nutrition overview was finalised in 2015, other countries that had performed this exercise in the previous years updated it in 2015 to include more recent data. This was the case in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Niger and Senegal, while in Rwanda only the dashboard was updated. In Ghana, the update of the nutrition overview was initiated. Some countries also developed sub-national Situation Analysis Dashboards, reflecting a broader increased demand for REACH analytical materials adapted to the sub-national level. For instance, Situation Analysis Dashboards were drafted for some regions in Burkina Faso (work on dashboards for the other regions continues), for all regions in Niger and selected districts involved in the WHO-ANI (Accelerating Nutrition Improvements) project in Uganda.
The Policy Overview reviews relevant policy and strategy frameworks (multi-sectoral, sectoral and sub-sectoral) in an effort to determine the extent to which they reflect nutrition. Further analysis is conducted on the national nutrition policy or strategy to ascertain whether: (1) it addresses key cross-cutting issues (e.g. nutrition governance, nutrition information systems, and behaviour change communications); and (2) it is comprehensive or primarily oriented towards selected sector(s) with opportunities to improve the sectoral balance. The overview increasingly encompasses legal and regulatory frameworks that are related to nutrition (e.g. legislation on fortification, maternity/paternity leave regulations).

This Policy Overview became increasingly relevant in 2015, as countries demanded support with follow-up action from the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2). The exercise was conducted in Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Senegal, and was updated in Niger. In addition, an initial draft was completed in Uganda and a partial draft was prepared in Myanmar. While the initial work on the Myanmar overview was completed in July and August 2015, the work later stalled in anticipation of the selection of core nutrition actions, CNAs, (a prerequisite for the Policy Overview). Nutrition-specific CNAs were finalised by the Ministry of Health by the end of 2015. Further work has been paused in order to ensure that the incoming government is given the opportunity to take the lead in a wide multi-sectoral consultative process to agree on all CNAs.

The Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping exercise aims to provide a qualitative and quantitative view of core nutrition actions by assessing who does what where, the coverage of beneficiaries, and which delivery mechanisms are used.

The mapping exercise was completed in Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Niger and Rwanda, whereas in Senegal a first mapping round was undertaken. In Uganda, a second round of mapping in six WHO-ANI districts was undertaken, while mapping tools were harmonised in Tanzania. Following the pilot in two districts in Tanzania, the district mapping tool was later applied in ten other ones in October.
The outputs of these exercises have strengthened nutrition planning (national and sub-national levels), scale-up discussions and/or priority setting in Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda and Uganda. The Nutrition Overview and mapping work in the northern regions of Ghana done prior to 2015 have catalysed government efforts to replicate the exercises at the district level as well as in additional regions in 2016. Similarly, the EU and UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) have expressed interest in supporting the replication of the Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping in Northern Uganda following the second round of the REACH mapping exercise undertaken in six WHO-ANI supported districts in 2015.

Analytical exercises enriched nutrition governance processes in Burkina Faso

The REACH-supported Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview has helped actors unpack the causes of malnutrition in Burkina Faso, portraying the multidimensional aspects of the problem and fostering consensus around it. The outputs have been used in the training on the integration of nutrition in food security programs in the North organized by FAO. Moreover, the Policy Overview, completed in 2015, helped identify sectors engaged in nutrition actions (both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive) as well as concrete opportunities for better reflecting nutrition in the country’s policy and strategy frameworks. The Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping that begun last year was finalised at the national level and in selected regions in 2015, using REACH’s Scaling Up Nutrition Planning and Monitoring Tool (SUN PMT). These collective results helped launch the revision of the national nutrition policy. Moreover, the REACH facilitators in collaboration with UN colleagues compiled a booklet, highlighting the main findings from both Burkina’s Policy Overview and mapping exercise, which was disseminated at the 2015 SUN Global Gathering to share the Burkina experience.

Rwanda reaped benefits from the REACH mapping exercise

In 2015, REACH helped update Rwanda’s Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping. The findings were presented to various stakeholders in different fora (e.g. Food and Nutrition Technical Working Group (FNTWG); SUN Civil Society Alliance General Assembly with 150+ participants; Permanent Secretaries of the Social Cluster Ministries) and were well received by all stakeholders. Districts are now more aware of the partners that are supporting them in nutrition. Moreover, the new stakeholders identified through the mapping were added to the mailing list of the FNTWG. The mapping also influenced the selection of districts to be covered by the new USAID Integrated WASH and Nutrition Program, as it identified geographical coverage gaps. Overall, the outputs from the updated Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview and the mapping exercise served as a reference point for nutrition planning and coordination efforts undertaken in 2015.
1.2 Selection of core nutrition actions for expected results

REACH supports countries to build consensus on a set of core nutrition actions that address country-specific nutrition problems. REACH facilitates the process in a participatory needs-driven approach that is led by the government, and that involves multiple sectors and stakeholders. The selection of core nutrition actions at the country level is key to supporting investments and to fostering scale-up. It also helps to optimize scarce resources and increase impact, as the countries focus efforts on a limited set of multi-sectoral actions. In Burkina Faso, Ghana, Myanmar and Rwanda, REACH supported the government and other stakeholders with the selection and consensus-building on core nutrition actions during 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>REACH facilitated a consultative process whereby sectors agreed on 27 core nutrition actions (from the original 45) which were then used for the mapping exercise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana &amp; Myanmar</td>
<td>REACH facilitated discussions on selecting and building consensus on core nutrition actions with different sectors. This was part of the process of formulating the country’s multi-sectoral national nutrition action plan and will continue in 2016.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Core nutrition actions identified in the national food and nutrition policy and strategy were increased from 21 to 23 and validated by the National Food and Nutrition Technical Working Group early 2015.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 Investment case

Investment cases are one of the methods used to raise awareness about the consequences of malnutrition among politicians and other decision-makers, and ultimately, to intensify efforts that address the problem. The Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) study is one example, which aims to measure the economic and social costs of malnutrition on a nation, if it were not tackled. While COHA is led by the African Union, with support from WFP and the UN Economic Commission for Africa, REACH supports countries undertaking the study in various ways.

The COHA studies were finalised in Chad and Ghana. In Chad, REACH supported the COHA process, which included advocacy to obtain government’s buy-in for the study and ensuring continued leadership on it and the mobilisation of the needed resources. Once the COHA data was available, REACH facilitators helped leverage the findings in advocacy (materials and activities) and funding proposals, including the proposal for the 11th European Development Fund. REACH also pushed for the results to inform the development of the new National Development Plan and UNDAF. In Ghana, REACH participated in the review of the report, including its validation. In Burkina Faso, REACH supported the official ceremony, where the COHA report was presented, as well as the subsequent sensitization campaign. The result of the study provided an avenue to recast the debate on nutrition among top-ranking government officials, including the Prime Minister, which reinforced other REACH-supported advocacy efforts aiming to place nutrition high on the new government’s political agenda in Burkina Faso. REACH was instrumental in advocating for the study to be conducted in Mozambique and in the mobilization of the required resources.
In Uganda, an investment case slide series was prepared which was used to sensitise stakeholders on nutrition and help with the multi-sectoral planning process. Other countries used new evidence to advocate for nutrition at the country level. In Mali, the four REACH agencies organized a SMART Breakfast, using the results from the SMART survey released earlier that year, in an effort to attract increased nutrition investment from donors and partners. Ultimately, the breakfast was attended by twenty-seven representatives of diplomatic corps, consulates, bilateral and multilateral donors, who expressed their interest and commitment to nutrition.

Lobbying for funding to support the implementation of Nepal’s nutrition plan paid off

In Nepal, lobbying undertaken by the National Planning Commission, assisted by REACH/National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat (NNFSS), resulted in a government allocation of 113.2 million Nepalese Rupees to support the NNFSS and the operationalization of the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) in the original six priority districts and seven new districts for the fiscal year spanning from July 2015 to June 2016. This allocation is almost a 200% increase compared to the previous year, for which 60 million Nepalese Rupees were provided.

1.4 Joint communications and advocacy strategy

2015 was a year of considerable progress for a wide range of advocacy and communication activities to which REACH contributed, as highlighted below:

- **Completion/launch of advocacy and communication strategies**: REACH supported the completion or launch of national advocacy and communication strategies in three countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>REACH provided technical inputs that contributed to the completion of the national nutrition advocacy plan. It was developed under the leadership of the Prime Minister’s Office and the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), involving a number of stakeholders from the government, development partners and civil society organisations (CSOs). It will now have to be validated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>The first Uganda Nutrition Advocacy and Communication Strategy developed with inputs from multi-sector stakeholders in 2014 was officially launched during the 6th Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security in October 2015. During the event, the Ugandan Prime Minister acknowledged REACH for its valuable support in the development of the strategy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Support to national nutrition advocacy efforts**: REACH supported varying national nutrition advocacy campaigns, TV interviews and other events in six countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>The WFP Representative in Bangladesh gave a live interview on national TV, where she amplified common nutrition messages, including the need for a multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder response. REACH facilitation support was pivotal to the articulation of the common nutrition messages developed in 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>REACH participated in a TV debate to raise awareness about nutrition along with representatives from the Ministry of Health, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. Three main topics were discussed, namely: micronutrients, the thousand days’ window of opportunity and investments in nutrition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mali
REACH supported nutrition sensitization efforts through the dissemination of the national nutrition policy, multi-sectoral action plan and communications plan to all regions (except Kidail). It further supported the organisation of meetings with coordination committees in selected regions to help define the respective roles and responsibilities of each sector in implementing the action plan.

Mozambique
REACH supported the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN) with the launch of an advocacy campaign in October to raise awareness about chronic malnutrition. The campaign was accompanied by a song and video to call on people to take action against chronic malnutrition, and to mobilize decision-makers and opinion leaders at all levels, across sectors. REACH collaborated with SETSAN and UNICEF to support the video spots, produced by Touch Publicidade.

Rwanda
REACH continued to support the multi-sectoral campaign, “A Thousand Days in the Land of a Thousand Hills”. This support encompassed the identification of ways to evaluate the campaign’s impact 1000 days after its launch in 2013. Additionally, a new radio program broadcasting the first 1000 Days messages targeting nutrition of children up to six years was launched. It is run by the Rwanda Health Communication Centre in collaboration with REACH through UNICEF.

Uganda
In preparation for and during Uganda’s hosting of the 6th Africa Day, REACH supported the Government to prepare and publish key messages on nutrition through national and regional newspaper supplements, radio spots and video filming of the proceedings. REACH joined government and civil society partners in several television emissions outlining the importance of nutrition for national development, and emphasizing the multi-sectoral response to undernutrition.

Advocacy efforts targeting Parliamentarians: REACH also supported nutrition advocacy that targeted parliamentarians in four countries, with a view to accelerating scale-up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burundi &amp; Nepal</td>
<td>REACH supported the organisation of a workshop with parliamentarians to sensitize them on their role in scaling up nutrition actions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>REACH facilitators supported the organization of a parliamentarian information day (e.g. development of Terms of Reference, materials) in October, which highlighted consequences of malnutrition on national development, motivating more than ten parliamentarians to join the SUN Network for Parliamentarians in Chad. The event attracted over 100 people, including parliamentarians, key Ministers (Health, Education, Agriculture, etc.), UN staff and development partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>The WFP Representative delivered a speech at a parliamentary roundtable. The event sought to engage parliamentarians in nutrition and to identify bottlenecks in the adoption of the new national nutrition policy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Identification of nutrition champions: In 2015, REACH played an active role in supporting the identification of nutrition champions in two countries, as discussed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>REACH facilitated multi-stakeholder discussions to establish the selection criteria for nutrition champions. As a result, eleven nutrition champions were formally identified by Chad’s multi-sectoral platform (Comité Technique Permanent de Nutrition et d’Alimentation) during the national nutrition forum in April 2015. The majority of the champions are high-ranking government officials (e.g. Ministers, Deputy to the Assembly), though two champions are UN staff (the UNICEF Country Representative and the REACH International Facilitator).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mozambique | REACH facilitated the process of identifying high-profile champions, who have since started to rally around nutrition. The champions range from First Ladies (current and former) to religious leaders, from Ministers to famed musicians. REACH supported the Fund for Development of the Community-the Graça Machel fund (former First Lady), SETSAN, the SUN CSO Network and the SUN Business Network with the preparations of materials and of the delegation for a meeting with the Prime Minister to advocate for his leadership in nutrition and to elevate nutrition coordination to a higher level.

Outcome 2: Strengthened national policies and programmes

2.1 Integration of nutrition into national development strategies/plans

REACH facilitates the inclusion of nutrition in national development strategies and plans. In Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, REACH continued catalyzing efforts to adequately integrate nutrition in successive versions of national development strategies and plans. In other countries, advocacy efforts initiated in previous years began to pay dividends. For instance, nutrition was reflected in the Government of Bangladesh’s 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020) following the finalization of a Background Paper on Nutrition (coordinated and funded by REACH) and advocacy efforts carried out by REACH and development partners. Concerted advocacy efforts undertaken by the UN in Mozambique and SETSAN that started in 2014 and continued into 2015 contributed to the inclusion of a strategic objective on the reduction of chronic malnutrition and nutrition indicators in the new Five-Year Government Plan (2015-2019), which was endorsed in April 2015. Similarly, the framework of Tanzania’s second five year development plan (2016/17-2020/21) included nutrition as one of its priority interventions.

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

The majority of REACH countries have national nutrition policies, strategies and plans in place that govern the scale-up of nutrition actions though some countries carried out reviews of these frameworks in 2015, with REACH facilitation support. In those cases, REACH fostered a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the immediate, underlying and basic causes of undernutrition as well as the engagement of multiple stakeholders towards a common vision for such governance processes.

a) National Nutrition Policies

In 2015, the national nutrition policy was endorsed by the Cabinet in Bangladesh. Following repeated advocacy targeting Chad’s Prime Minister by the REACH Heads of Agencies, the new national nutrition policy was adopted via a decree. In other countries, such as Burkina Faso, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania and Uganda, the national nutrition policies were being reviewed and updated. REACH supported these policy formulation/review efforts along with many other stakeholders at the country level.

REACH efforts catalysed the development of the new nutrition policy in Niger

REACH provided pivotal facilitation, analytical and financial support to the nutrition policy review process in Niger. Based on the findings of the REACH-supported comprehensive Nutrition Overview (updated in 2015), Niger’s Multi-sectoral Steering Committee on Nutrition decided to revise the National Nutrition Policy to better reflect the multiple dimensions of nutrition. The review employed a participatory process led by the High Commission of the 3N (Les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens) Initiative, with a series of workshops held at national and regional levels. The consultations leveraged the findings from the REACH analytical exercises (including the nutrition/policy overviews and mapping) to structure the dialogue on objective issues specific to the Niger context. This process created momentum for better integrating nutrition into the various sectors, and helped instil further national ownership in efforts to address malnutrition. The draft of the new nutrition policy was presented to partners and validated by the Steering Committee in December 2015.
b) National Nutrition Action Plans
REACH provides facilitation and analytical support to countries to develop or review national multi-sectoral nutrition action plans. In 2015, REACH supported the development or review of nutrition action plans in Chad, Ghana, Guinea, and Myanmar. In Niger and Tanzania, REACH supported the development of roadmaps for the elaboration of the multi-sectoral action plans. REACH also supported the establishment of a steering committee and six multi-stakeholder task forces to support the process of the development of the national multi-sectoral nutrition action plan (2016/17-2020/21) in Tanzania, led by the Prime Minister’s Office.

REACH helped employ a multi-sectoral and inclusive approach for nutrition planning in Myanmar
In Myanmar, REACH facilitated the development of the Zero Draft of the prioritised Myanmar National Action Plan for Food and Nutrition Security (MNAPFNS 2015-2025) at the request of the Deputy Minister of the National Planning and Economic Development. REACH engaged in bilateral meetings with Permanent Secretaries and focal points from different sectors and helped actors agree upon nutrition indicators, baselines and targets included in the new plan. Additionally, REACH facilitated initial discussions on prioritisation undertaken as part of these planning efforts and on the articulation of the country’s nutrition coordination architecture and nutrition governance, as outlined by the plan (to be validated by the Government). REACH also advocated for the active engagement of multiple nutrition-related sectors in the planning process.

REACH also supports multi-sector reviews of joint action in nutrition. In Tanzania, following the successful first Joint Multi-sectoral Nutrition Review (in 2014), a second review was organized in September 2015 by TFNC. REACH played a key role in both the organization and the facilitation of the event. Participants included government sectors, development partners, academia and the private sector. They discussed progress on the implementation of the National Nutrition Strategy (2011-2016) and produced policy and program recommendations for implementation in 2016. The evidence from the JMNR is used to inform decision-making and the integration of nutrition actions and budgets at sub-national level.

2.3 Integration of priority nutrition actions into work plans of relevant ministries
REACH facilitates the integration of core nutrition actions into relevant sectoral and ministerial plans, including sectoral investment plans and annual work plans. In 2015, REACH extended support to various sectors in Mali, Mozambique, Niger and Rwanda.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Nutrition was integrated into the 2015 work plan of the Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Social Protection, Gender and Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>REACH supported the organization of a planning retreat with twenty-five participants, including representation from seven key sectors and development partners (e.g. WHO, Danish International Development Agency - DANIDA). During the retreat, REACH facilitated the integration of nutrition into the 2016 sector work plans under SETSAN’s leadership.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>As part of the review of the nutrition policy, REACH encouraged leaders from all key sectors to review their sector plans (and policies) to ensure that nutrition is adequately reflected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>In 2015, REACH in collaboration with FAO supported the development of an operational plan for the National Agriculture Investment Plan, where nutrition is reflected. The operational plan acknowledges the need to go beyond food production.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4 Integration of priority nutrition actions into relevant sub-national plans

Throughout 2015, REACH continued to provide support to nutrition planning processes at the sub-national level by bringing stakeholders together and sensitizing them on nutrition. Planning and scale-up discussions were facilitated by REACH in the below countries. REACH analytical outputs (see section 1.1) were increasingly used to structure these sub-national processes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>REACH facilitated and financially supported annual nutrition review and planning workshops in the three northern regions. Moreover, REACH successfully lobbied to ensure the participation of the District Assemblies, District Coordinating Directors and Planners and Regional Ministers, and representation from all sectors to help strengthen collaboration in nutrition. Participants attended from Government (e.g. including officials from the different sectors), UN agencies, donors and CSOs. The REACH-supported regional Situation Analysis Dashboards and findings from the regional stakeholder and action mapping were presented and helped foster objective prioritization and scale-up discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>REACH supported nutrition planning efforts in six priority districts. The analytical exercises informed scaling-up discussions at the sub-national level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>REACH facilitated the planning for 16 Communes of Convergence. To date, 27 out of 35 communes have operational plans for nutrition and food security. The REACH analytical scoping exercises guided sub-national planning consultations, including scale-up conversations, by bringing nutrition issues (including coverage gaps) to stakeholders’ attention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>The Ministry of Health and WHO, together with REACH, supported the development of nutrition plans for the six ANI districts. The planning efforts leveraged REACH analytical outputs such as regional Situation Analysis Dashboard(s) and the stakeholder and action mapping to inform scale-up conversations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outcome 3: Increased human and institutional capacity at all levels

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

REACH, in partnership with other stakeholders, supports the establishment and/or strengthening of multi-sectoral/stakeholder coordination mechanisms at both national and sub-national levels. This includes support in defining the coordination architecture, establishing secretariats, defining terms of references and necessary legal frameworks. In 2015, REACH supported the creation of and/or advocacy for the establishment of nutrition coordination mechanisms in the following countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>The UN Resident Coordinator sent a letter to the Prime Minister, on behalf of the REACH partner agencies, to request that nutrition coordination be elevated to a supra-ministerial level. At the sub-national level, the Africa Nutrition Security Partnership (ANSP) and REACH supported local authorities with the establishment of a multi-sectoral platform in the Passoré province (North) as prescribed by a decree of the High Commissioner. ANSP and REACH started to support the development of the roadmap for Passoré’s new coordination platform and its 2016 action plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>REACH supported the establishment of Food and Nutrition Regional Technical Groups in three regions, whereby the Regional Directors of Health and Agriculture were selected as Manager and Deputy Manager, respectively.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In May, the former UN Resident Coordinator submitted a letter to the Prime Minister, on behalf of the REACH agencies, to advocate for the reactivation of a multi-sectoral platform for nutrition coordination.

Following concerted advocacy efforts by the REACH Agencies, the Prime Minister signed a decree in March 2015 for the establishment of a secretariat/coordination cell to coordinate the implementation of the multi-sectoral action plan. Since then, REACH has supported efforts to operationalise the decree (e.g. provision of facilitation support to identify staffing needs for the coordination cell and support with the advertisement of those new positions).

For effective functioning of the multi-sectoral nutrition platforms, REACH has supported the establishment and capacity of SUN networks (beyond the UN Network), as requested. This may include the Civil Society, Donor, Business and Academia Networks. Following support from REACH, the SUN CSO networks were launched in Burundi (by the First Lady) and Chad. REACH also supported the establishment of academia/research networks in these two countries as well as in Niger. Progress on the establishment of country UN Networks is reported under Outcome 4.

### 3.2 Strengthening of institutional and human capacity for nutrition in government

#### a) Institutional nutrition governance capacities

In 2015, REACH also supported the operationalisation of the multi-sectoral platforms to make sure they are functional and able to deliver results. To this end, REACH facilitators are either hosted in government and/or dedicate a large portion of their time to support the SUN Government Focal Points and nutrition coordination secretariats, where existent. This can entail support with the convening of multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder meetings, compilation of documentation (including progress reports), SUN processes, the preparation of government delegations for international conferences, etc. This support is extended at the national and sub-national levels.

**REACH Ghana’s support to coordination mechanisms are reaping benefits**

In Ghana, REACH provided intensive backstopping support to the Regional Coordinating Council in previous years (including 2015) by preparing meeting agendas, organizing meetings, providing updates delivering presentations, etc. After having built capacity for these functions, this work has been taken over by the council.

In addition, REACH supported functional capacity assessments for nutrition governance in Nepal and Niger, which were undertaken in 2015. The assessments identified gaps and areas for improvement to support the optimal functionality of institutions as well as the required individual competencies for multi-sectoral nutrition governance processes. Furthermore, follow-up actions were initiated in 2015 for the capacity assessment completed in Ghana the previous year (2014).

### Country | Progress
--- | ---
Ghana | The capacity development group shared the recommendations of the capacity assessment (2014) during greater nutrition planning discussions. These efforts helped initiate the identification and prioritization of capacity development actions to be integrated into the national nutrition action plan that is currently being developed.
Nepal | REACH/NNFSS supported a functional capacity assessment through Columbia and Johns Hopkins Universities. The exercise assessed the capacity of key government authorities and institutions to coordinate the implementation of the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) at
national and decentralised levels. The results showed that Nepal has strong capacities with regards to formulating policies and strategies. However, the capability to budget, implement and manage nutrition actions remains a challenge, particularly at the sub-national level. This called for the need of prolonged investment in building the capacity of districts to manage the MSNP in and beyond the six priority districts. The sustainability of the NNFSS also emerged as a key issue of concern. The government, in collaboration with the UN and development partners, is addressing these issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Niger</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A capacity assessment that started in 2014 was completed in 2015. The work was led by FAO and funded by REACH, and encompassed the assessment at all levels.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*b) Individual nutrition governance capacities*

Throughout 2015, REACH worked with SUN government focal points, ministerial focal points, national secretariats and other key players, to facilitate and support training and coaching on a range of nutrition governance activities in collaboration with partners.

- **Tools and methodologies:**
  REACH has a set of analytical tools and methodologies which are applied at the country level. REACH develops national capacity to use and adapt these tools so as to help streamline them into nutrition governance processes. This is crucial for sustainability and national ownership. In countries that conducted or initiated Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping, efforts were made to build local capacity to undertake the exercise and to update the data on a regular basis. The training targeted different groups based on country context. In Rwanda, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) staff were trained in the nutrition desk at the Ministry of Health while twenty-five district M&E focal persons were trained in Uganda. Five TFNC staff and ten district nutrition officers were trained in Tanzania. Moreover, REACH in Ghana supported the development of a template to facilitate data collection for the mapping exercise to be replicated in six additional districts in the northern regions.

- **Management of nutrition information systems and other M&E:**
  REACH supported training on the management of nutrition information systems for implementation tracking and other nutrition M&E. In Mozambique, sector focal points were trained on implementation tracking with regards to the Multi-sectoral Action Plan for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition (PAMRDC). The coaching of data managers and nutritionists in seventeen districts of Rwanda continued in an effort to support the operationalization of the Development Information System (DevInfo), which was funded by REACH and UNICEF. In addition, a training on the joint web-based dashboard (including the use of data visualization features) was conducted for national focal points from all social cluster ministries in Rwanda. In Tanzania, in-service M&E training for district nutrition officers was completed in all the 169 districts with support from TFNC, Sokoine University and UNICEF.

- **Budgeting and planning:**
  REACH also helped strengthen country capacity on nutrition budgeting and planning during 2015. In Nepal, a Training of Trainers for planning on the MSNP was conducted for sector focal points and trainers from different training institutions, with a view to amplifying this training in all districts. Capacity development activities were later initiated in seven additional priority districts, leveraging the trainers who were trained through the Training of Trainers. In Tanzania, REACH supported the organisation of the government’s annual planning and budgeting training for district nutrition officers and planning officers. As a result, nutrition
plans and budgets for the fiscal year 2016/17 were drafted by districts for inclusion in Tanzania’s Medium Term Expenditure Framework.

**Nutrition capacity building efforts gained momentum in Nepal**

NNFSS, with REACH support, started to establish a growing pool of trainers on nutrition planning. The pool leverages trainers of existing public training institutions, such as the National and Regional Health Training Centres, National Administration Staff College and Local Development Training Academies. NNFSS/REACH also organized a three-day training on the MSNP in July 2015 to enhance knowledge and skills for implementing the MSNP and strengthening multi-sector coordination.

➢ **Awareness of nutrition and its multi-sectoral dimensions:**

REACH supported a series of nutrition sensitization activities in 2015, emphasizing its multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional components. In Burundi, basic training on nutrition, food security and the importance of multi-sectorality was conducted for 80 members of the ten Technical Working Groups (TWG) of the Multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition Security Platform. A refresher training on nutrition for staff of all sectors and a nutrition sensitization workshop for journalists were held in Nepal. A workshop was held in Burkina Faso to strengthen nutrition coordination capacity and foster multi-sectoral dialogue among nutrition stakeholders. The workshop was convened by the Ministry of Health in partnership with Cornell University and UNICEF, with collaboration from REACH. In particular, REACH contributed to the workshop preparations and presented REACH experiences with nutrition coordination processes.

3.3 **Knowledge-sharing network for exchange of good programming practices**

REACH encouraged and fostered knowledge-sharing at the country level in a number of ways, as highlighted below.

a) **Knowledge-sharing events**

In 2015, REACH facilitated and contributed to the preparation of high-level knowledge-sharing events in Chad and Uganda. These events emerged as powerful advocacy platforms for nutrition and attracted senior politicians and high-ranking government officials, among other stakeholders.

**Chad convened its first National Nutrition Forum**

The first National Forum for Nutrition and Food Security was organised by the Ministry of Health on 28-30 April 2015 in N’Djamena, with opening remarks delivered by the Prime Minister. The event was attended by around 400 participants, including key Government Ministers (e.g. Health, Education, Agriculture), UN staff (including UNICEF and WFP Representatives, nutrition staff and REACH colleagues), donors, researchers, and some invitees from other countries in the region (e.g. Niger, Ivory Coast, Mauritania). The forum helped raise awareness about the nutrition issues faced by the country, drawing upon excerpts from the REACH Nutrition Overview. Broadly speaking, REACH played an active role in the organization of the event, supporting the preparation of background materials, overall event planning, south-south learning, and the organization of a donor round table held as a side-event. Furthermore, the REACH Niger International Facilitator shared insights from Niger’s experience with the 3N multi-sectoral collaboration platform.
b) Cross-country exchanges
In 2015, REACH continued to promote south-to-south learning and the exchange of experiences between countries such as on nutrition mapping. Analytical support on the Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping exercise was provided to REACH Burkina Faso and Senegal by the Regional Facilitator of Niamey, following her experience with the data collection and analysis phases of the REACH mapping in Niger. Colleagues from REACH Burkina Faso, in turn, shared their mapping skills and experience with REACH colleagues in Guinea.

c) Knowledge sharing portal
After a solid year of work, the Nepal Nutrition and Food Security Portal (available at www.nnfsp.gov.np) was launched during a parliamentarian meeting in mid-2015. REACH facilitators worked with NNFSS colleagues and a local IT company to develop the web-based platform, which is owned by the government and managed by the NNFSS. The portal offers multiple functionalities and various nutrition-related data, such as stakeholder mapping data and outputs. It enables the direct uploading of data by an array of country actors across sectors, thereby fostering knowledge-sharing and management. Each stakeholder can create a profile in the portal where their tools, data, reports and other materials may be posted. In addition, the portal serves as vehicle to track the implementation status of the MSNP. The portal may be replicated and tailored to other countries.

Outcome 4: Increased effectiveness and accountability

4.1 Multi-sectoral responsibilities and accountability matrix
Having comprehensive M&E frameworks in place is crucial to the effective scale-up of nutrition actions by multiple stakeholders across different sectors. REACH has been supporting governments to elaborate M&E frameworks for nutrition action plans in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Myanmar and Niger in 2015. Meanwhile, the M&E framework was finalised in Uganda where REACH had advocated with UN partners and the government throughout the year to conclude this work. Furthermore, Nepal’s M&E/Management Information Systems working group agreed on the updated M&E framework. REACH also supported the revision of M&E indicators as part of developing the web-based multi-sectoral nutrition dashboard in Rwanda.

Uganda hosted a highly successful Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security
The 6th annual Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security was held in Kampala on 28-30 October 2015. The theme of the 2015 event was “Empowering Our Women, Securing Our Food, Improving Our Nutrition.” REACH provided intensive organisational support, and contributed to advocacy and information-sharing activities through national and regional media coverage and the dissemination of Uganda’s National Communication and Advocacy Strategy, which was launched by Uganda’s Prime Minister during the event. The event provided an opportunity for the 500+ participants (including African governments, CSOs, international partners, private sector, and scientific/research institutions) to discuss progress made and the challenges ahead for scaling up nutrition both in Uganda and throughout Africa.
4.2 Creation, implementation of multi-sectoral nutrition monitoring system & linkages to accountability

a. Implementation tracking

Being able to track the implementation status of the national nutrition multi-sectoral action plan is key to good governance, management and accountability. REACH in Rwanda collaborated with information system experts to support the establishment of sustainable national nutrition information platforms based on latest technologies that allow evidence-based decision-making. In Tanzania, REACH supported the development of a nutrition scorecard (leveraging its experience with the REACH Situation Analysis Dashboards), while in Mozambique, REACH supported the roll-out of the PAMRDC implementation tracking for reporting.

**Rwanda developed a web-based multi-sectoral nutrition dashboard**

In Rwanda, REACH supported the development of an online multi-sectoral nutrition dashboard for all of the social cluster ministries to monitor outcome and impact indicators. Funded by the EU, this platform was designed to be aligned with Rwanda’s National Food & Nutrition Strategic Plan. The dashboard builds on the District Health Information System, version 2 (DHIS2) software, a complementary web-based information system.

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| Simple interface allows users to explore data, make their own visualizations, and share outputs with others |
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The Ministry of Health hosts and administers the dashboard and will regularly update data based on information from the other social cluster ministries. Through this EU investment, a dashboard shell was developed on an open-source platform, which can be made available to other countries without any fees.

**Nutrition scorecard piloted in Tanzania to step up accountability and accelerate action**

In Tanzania, a nutrition scorecard was jointly developed with the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre, African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), UNICEF and REACH. The scorecard is a customized, dynamic management tool that tracks national and sub-national performance vis-à-vis process indicators for multi-sectoral nutrition actions. It also includes nutritional impact indicators, with a view to guiding decision-making. REACH helped facilitate multi-sectoral dialogue on the development of the scorecard, starting in early 2015. More specifically, it promoted the inclusion of nutrition-related indicators from health, WASH, agriculture, community development, education and nutrition financing.

**REACH implementation tracking tool used again to report the status of the PAMRDC in Mozambique**

In Mozambique, the national implementation tracking mechanism that was created by REACH in 2014 is being used by SETSAN to report the status of the PAMRDC to the Council of Ministers. The implementation tracking system was replicated in other provinces in 2015, beyond Sofala, where it was piloted by REACH. In Zambezia Province an implementation tracking mechanism was developed with UNICEF support in 2015, while in Manica Province the work is on-going with support from Concern. REACH provided the training and technical support for them to undertake this.
4.3 Strengthening of UN efforts in nutrition

REACH carries out a dual role, supporting the government to improve multi-sectoral nutrition governance and facilitating increased coordination and collaboration among the UN agencies at the country level. During the reporting year, considerable progress was made with regards to the establishment of country UN Networks for SUN and the facilitation of UN Network recommended actions, such as the UN Nutrition Inventory, the UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda, and joint programming. Where applicable, REACH also supported the inclusion of nutrition in country UN Development Assistance Frameworks/Plans (UNDAF/UNDAP).

- **Establishment of UN Networks at country level**: In 2015, UN Networks were established in six REACH countries (Burundi, Guinea, Mozambique, Myanmar, Rwanda and Senegal) through the nomination of Chairs.

- **UN Nutrition Inventory and UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda**: REACH countries piloted these new UN Network exercises, which led to the development of a guidance package for use by all UN Networks at the country level. In 2015, REACH facilitated, with close support from the UN Network/REACH Secretariat, the completion of the UN Nutrition Inventory in Ghana and Mozambique as well as an initial round/draft of the Inventory in Burkina Faso and Myanmar. REACH also initiated the Inventory exercise in Mali. With skilled REACH facilitation, Mozambique became the first country to develop a UN Nutrition Agenda, entitled the ‘United Nations Agenda for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition (2015-2019)’.

**UN agencies come together to assess current & future UN nutrition support in Mozambique**

The UN Nutrition Inventory was piloted in Mozambique with tools and guidance developed by the UN Network for SUN/REACH Secretariat. The process was led by the UN Network Chair with participation from UN nutrition focal points and the REACH Facilitator. After successful completion of the inventory, the agencies were motivated to use the findings to inform UN strategic planning in nutrition. REACH, with support from the UN Network/REACH Secretariat, organized and facilitated a UN retreat in May 2015 to collectively discuss the current nutrition landscape and current/future UN agency strategic responses to the emerging gaps based on the insight from the inventory.

Strategic discussions helped the UN nutrition team determine how to position nutrition in the forthcoming UNDAF. A high-level debriefing ensued with the UN Resident Coordinator and respective UN Agency Representatives, in which they agreed to develop the UN Agenda for the Reduction of Chronic Undernutrition in Mozambique. The Agenda was approved by the REACH Country Committee in December and will be published and disseminated in early 2016.

The process of developing the agenda brought the UN nutrition partner agencies closer together. While there was some initial resistance to the development of a joint agenda, this was overcome once the dialogue was initiated through the Inventory and the subsequent inter-agency retreat. A strong, proactive and engaged Resident Coordinator was a critical success factor. While the process was initially facilitated by the REACH Secretariat and Facilitator, the ‘nutrition gang’ (i.e. UN nutrition group) has since taken it over.

- **Development of/support to joint programmes**: The UN agencies continued to develop and support joint programmes/programming. In 2015, REACH was actively involved in these efforts in Chad, Guinea and Rwanda. In Chad, REACH supported the development of a draft proposal for a joint UN programme (with the REACH agencies and UNFPA) to address the regions with high levels of child malnutrition. Meanwhile, another joint programme was formulated and signed for the production of food supplements (2016-2019), engaging the four REACH agencies and government departments in two regions and six districts in Chad. REACH helped UN
colleagues in Guinea come together to formulate a joint nutrition programme to address stunting in three regions. In Rwanda, REACH continued to provide coordination support to the Swiss-funded One UN Joint Nutrition Programme that was launched in 2013 in two districts. REACH also helped prepare a request to extend the project’s duration through December 2016.

Integration of nutrition in UN development frameworks: REACH provided support to incorporate nutrition in UNDAFs/UNDAPs in countries where they were under review or extension. REACH Ghana helped the UN thematic groups to revisit their UNDAF (2012-2016, extended to 2017) outcome areas and prioritise their outputs, ensuring that nutrition was adequately reflected. In Burkina Faso, Mali, Mozambique and Tanzania, REACH has been supporting the development of the next UNDAF so as to integrate nutrition in the appropriate sections. For instance, REACH helped bring different agencies, such as FAO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP and WHO together to participate in this process in Tanzania. The UN nutrition team, subsequently, worked together to define nutrition outputs, indicators, targets and actions. Nutrition has since been prioritised in the new UNDAP II and is featured at the outcome level. In Mali, nutrition was included at the output level of the UNDAF+ (2015-2019), which was finalised and signed in 2015. REACH also supported the integration of nutrition into Chad’s new UNDAF (due to go into effect in 2016), but efforts continue to further strengthen this component.

The broader environment of REACH countries in 2015 influenced REACH’s progress. Nutrition swiftly gained a prominent place on the political agenda with the establishment of Mozambique’s new government in early 2015. Similarly, in Tanzania, elections of a new government provided an opportunity to strengthen nutrition governance. Conversely, general elections led to political instability and civil unrest in Burkina Faso, Burundi and Haiti during the same year challenging the advancement of planned work. In Myanmar, elections temporarily diverted the government’s attention from nutrition. Nepal’s earthquakes in the second quarter of 2015 caused widespread damage across the country, shifting the attention of government stakeholders and partners to the emergency response for several months. Senior staffing changes at the National Development Planning Commission, the body tasked with the coordination of nutrition in Ghana, as well as the change of the SUN government focal point hindered momentum in multi-sectoral nutrition efforts. In spite of these challenges, the above countries managed to make progress towards the four REACH outcomes.

By the end of 2015, international facilitators concluded their term in all Generation 1 countries while national facilitators remained present in five countries (Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda and Tanzania). Transition and sustainability plans were developed and operationalized for all of the countries undergoing transition, with arrangements tailored to the country context, so as to minimize disruption of the gains made through the REACH support. In Nepal, REACH continued to fund government staff at the National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat after the departure of the REACH International Facilitator in late November, and will continue to do so through June 2016, when

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5 The former international facilitator of Nepal went on temporary duty to Bangladesh from late November 2015 to April 2016. Mali is in the process of recruiting a new international facilitator, as it has been granted additional funding from Canada through the second grant agreement, and this will continue its engagement beyond that of the Generation 1 countries.
the UN will take over these costs with support from the EU. The REACH transition process support to Bangladesh was strategically timed in late 2015, just after the government announced the establishment of a secretariat to coordinate nutrition across sectors. In Uganda, transition discussions culminated in provisional plans for the UN to support a national coordinator placed in the Uganda Nutrition Action Plan Coordination Secretariat until the post is fully absorbed by government funding.

Progress made in the Generation 2 countries differed from that of the first generation countries, recognizing that REACH was initiated later in Generation 2 countries. In 2015, international facilitators were deployed to Guinea, Haiti and Myanmar while national facilitators were recruited in all Generation 2 countries with the exception of Senegal, where a candidate was identified but the recruitment process remains on-going.
3. REACH Country Support

3.1 Facilitator Support

Throughout 2015, the UN Network for SUN/REACH Secretariat (herein Secretariat) continued to regularly provide analytical and oversight support to the facilitators. The Secretariat organized monthly facilitators’ teleconferences as well as specific follow-up calls to address issues as they arose. Country visits such as monitoring missions were also organized to check REACH progress and to support the REACH process at the country level. In addition, country progress (including the status of REACH deliverables) was monitored through bi-annual calls with the REACH facilitators. The Secretariat also engaged with REACH Country Committees to discuss transition arrangements, among other issues.

Backstopping support and quality assurance were provided to support the successful completion of REACH analytical deliverables (e.g. Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, Policy Overview, Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping) at the country level. The Secretariat engaged with facilitators and other relevant individuals (e.g. UN colleagues, government staff) through coaching calls to familiarize them with REACH tools and methodologies, and to provide detailed feedback on analytical outputs so as to safeguard their quality. Similarly, the coaching calls represented an opportunity to explain the application of these analytical outputs to the nutrition governance processes that REACH supports at the country level.

3.2 Tools and Guidance

There are multiple positive references about the REACH analytical tools in the REACH External Evaluation Reports (2015), as quoted on the side. Various stakeholders have also acknowledged quality of these tools, further attesting the utility and value of them. In 2015, the REACH Secretariat updated and refined existing tools and guidance materials based on feedback from the countries in an effort to continually improve them. It also developed new tools and guidance materials, where needed, in order to better respond to country needs.

a) Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Overview Tool

The Secretariat refined its Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Overview Tool so as to include information on making an investment case for nutrition. In addition, the Situation Analysis Dashboard was translated into French.

b) Policy Overview Template

Based on country experiences, the Secretariat updated the REACH Policy Overview template to include legal and regulatory frameworks, among other enhancements.

c) Scaling Up Nutrition Planning and Monitoring Tool (SUN PMT) and Guidance

The REACH Secretariat updated and finalized the SUN PMT and accompanying guidance/training materials in early 2015 based on lessons learned from the pilots in Ghana, Tanzania and Uganda. These materials were further revised later in the year based on experiences in Burkina Faso, Rwanda and Senegal. Following the work with DHIS2 developers and EU in Rwanda, the REACH Secretariat engaged with them to explore the possibility of collaboration to develop a web-based version of the SUN PMT.
d) Planning Guidance
In 2015, the Secretariat developed initial guidance to help facilitators support effective and coherent multi-sectoral nutrition planning at national and sub-national levels. The guidance was drafted in response to requests from Uganda, as it was about to undertake nutrition planning workshops at the district level (supported by REACH and other UN colleagues). It drew upon REACH planning experiences in Ghana, and was later applied in Niger to inform the participative planning consultations conducted later that year.

Like other REACH tools, the planning guidance was formulated in a visual format that is conducive to presentation during planning exercises in an effort to help structure them. It provides an overview of nutrition planning, such as the types of actors and institutions involved, their respective roles, the main steps of planning, and the various levels of planning, highlighting the importance of bridging national and sub-national planning streams. Moreover, it helps contextualize planning discussions within the nutrition situation, coverage of nutrition actions and existing capacity to address the nutrition challenges of a given geographic area (e.g. nation, region, and district). To this end, it illustrates how REACH analytical tools can be used to inform data-driven planning processes and scale up discussions. It also prompts consideration to influencing factors and linkages to the country’s nutrition policy framework and broader development frameworks. Excerpts of the guidance were shared during one of the workshops about planning at the SUN Global Gathering in Milan (October 2015), where a staff member from the Secretariat served on the panel.

e) Selection of Core Nutrition Actions Guidance
The Secretariat also formulated guidance (in both English and French) to facilitate the Selection of Core Nutrition Actions at the country level. The guidance provides insight about the process for undertaking this deliverable as well as the selection criteria that may be considered at the country level. Furthermore, the guidance articulates the linkages to other REACH deliverables, such as the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, Policy Overview, and Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping.

3.3 Monitoring & Evaluation
a) REACH External Evaluation
A Joint Evaluation of the REACH Initiative\(^6\) initiated in 2014 was completed in 2015. The evaluation was conducted by Mokoro Ltd. with oversight provided by the WFP Office of Evaluation and the Evaluation Management Group, the latter consisting of members of the four REACH partner agencies and Global Affairs Canada. The evaluation covered the REACH engagement in eight countries (i.e. Bangladesh, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) over a four-year time span (2011-2015). In addition, it encompassed the functions of the Secretariat. It measured performance against targets set in Country Implementation Plans and annual work plans, drawing on REACH M&E data, key informant interviews and country case studies from visits conducted by the evaluation team.

Overall, the evaluation found REACH to serve, "a unique facilitating and catalytic function at the country level". It affirmed that REACH is well-aligned to the international nutrition agenda and appreciated the country-led, multi-sector action facilitated by REACH. The identified key success factors of REACH were its "neutrality [of the facilitators], flexibility, quality of technical tools, links with national planning and priorities, and – in the opinion of many national stakeholders – its competent staff." In particular, the evaluation found REACH to be effective at raising awareness on nutrition issues among different stakeholder groups and sectors. The evaluation also provided recommendations on how to strengthen REACH, encouraging a review of the REACH theory of change. It, furthermore, recommended extending the timeframe of REACH to five years (instead of 2-3 years) to better ensure sustainability. Moreover, the evaluation recommended the development of a medium-term vision, strategy and operational plan to guide REACH 2.0, whereby the linkages to the SUN Movement are articulated. It also encouraged REACH to develop funding options and mobilize resources to support the continuation of core REACH functions.

On 10 November 2015, the Summary Evaluation Report and REACH partnership’s management response was presented to the Executive Board. The board recognized the need for strong UN collaboration and pointed to REACH as a concrete example. It also asked to be kept abreast strategic developments. The development of the UN Network for SUN/REACH 2.0 strategy was promptly initiated in late 2015, and will continue into 2016.

b) M&E quantitative data collection

The Secretariat assisted the eight Generation 1 countries with the collection and analysis of quantitative endline data, as specified in the REACH M&E framework. This was done during the first and second quarters of 2015 in preparation for the external evaluation.

The Secretariat also supported the Generation 2 Canada-funded countries, in particular Burkina Faso, Haiti, and Senegal, with gathering baseline data for REACH M&E practices. While the collection of REACH baseline data in Myanmar was also planned for 2015, the exercise was shifted to early 2016 in view of the delayed arrival of the international facilitator in the country.

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8 Same as above footnote.

9 The evaluation recommended that this period be aligned to the SUN Movement 2.0 timeframe.
4. Knowledge Management and Communications

4.1 Annual Gathering

The REACH Annual Gathering was convened from 3-6 March 2015 in Rome, Italy. REACH staff from fifteen countries and members of the Secretariat came together to review and refine strategic directions for the future. Other participants included collaborating colleagues from UN partner agencies, the SUN Movement Secretariat, GAC, Columbia University and The Boston Consulting Group (BCG). In addition, there was high-level participation from Ramiro Lopes Da Silva, UNSCN Chair/WFP Assistant Executive Director, and Tom Arnold, SUN Movement Coordinator ad interim.

The annual gathering provided a platform for facilitators to share experiences and receive updates from the global level. It was also an opportunity for new REACH countries (e.g. Burkina Faso, Haiti and Senegal) to learn from the experiences of countries where REACH was initiated earlier.

A number of topics were discussed during the gathering, as highlighted below.

- The evolving role of REACH in the UN Network for SUN and how to strengthen the Network at country level
- Experience-sharing on country-level nutrition governance architecture and dynamics
- The REACH external evaluation
- The REACH transition process for seven Generation 1 Canada-funded countries
- Understanding opportunities to further leverage the expertise and support of partners (e.g. FIRST initiative)

4.2 Knowledge-Sharing/Communications Platforms

a) Knowledge-Sharing Portal

In 2015, the Secretariat continued to update its Knowledge-Sharing Portal (private), which serves as an internal resource for REACH facilitators as well as interested UN partner agencies and other relevant colleagues. Both new and revised materials, including tools/templates, guidance, country examples and other resources were uploaded, as they became available.

b) REACH Website

One of the functions of the Secretariat is to share knowledge with facilitators and external parties. Over the course of the year, the Secretariat liaised with facilitators to prepare brief articles on newsworthy country progress, which were posted on the REACH public website. In addition, general webpages about the REACH engagement in the new REACH countries (Generation 2 GAC countries and Guinea) and in Burundi were prepared and posted in consultation with the relevant facilitators. Web articles about REACH global updates, such as the annual workshop, the external evaluation and REACH participation in the 2015 SUN Global Gathering were also posted online.
c) Other REACH communications and materials

In October 2015, the Secretariat prepared and disseminated its first monthly e-Communication in an effort to streamline REACH communications. The monthly e-Communications profile key developments regarding REACH, the UN Network for SUN, the greater SUN Movement, UN agencies and international nutrition. The e-Communication has been well-received and has already helped foster increased knowledge-sharing and collaboration among REACH colleagues (and the UN Network).

The Secretariat also compiled a new REACH booklet entitled ‘Connecting the dots: Key inputs for facilitating coherent and comprehensive nutrition planning’, featuring recent insights from REACH country experiences in nutrition planning. It includes a mix of summary guidance and country examples, illustrating how outputs from REACH analytical exercises can be leveraged to inform coherent and comprehensive nutrition planning at all levels. The 2015 REACH booklet was showcased at the SUN Global Gathering (marketplace and parallel workshops) and was disseminated at other meetings, including the Executive Board session, where the findings from the REACH evaluation were presented.

4.3 Contributions to International Nutrition Meetings

Members of the REACH team - global and country - actively partook in various international workshops and conferences held in 2015, where they shared insight about REACH experiences in strengthening nutrition governance and had the opportunity to learn about other country experiences. These contributions are summarized below, with a view to highlighting how REACH participation added value to these events. Often, REACH facilitators supported government representatives and other country stakeholders with the preparations for these gatherings and accompanied them, as requested.

- **International Food Policy and Research Institute (IFPRI) Stories of Change Methods Workshop:** The Secretariat was asked to participate in a methods workshop on the IFPRI Stories of Change in Nutrition initiative (14-15 January), which is being undertaken through its Transform Nutrition platform. During the workshop, REACH presented how it is supporting nutrition governance at the country level, underscoring the added value it is bringing to help ensure those processes are multi-sectoral.

- **International Women’s Day:** REACH received high visibility at this event held at IFAD headquarters on 6 March, with the screening of a REACH-supported film and exhibiting its work at the Gender Share Fair. The video footage depicts the underlying causes of undernutrition in Bangladesh through the voice of local people, underscoring the gender dynamics related to undernutrition in the country.

- **Third Federation of African Nutrition Societies (FANUS) Conference:** REACH played an active role in both the preparations and the sessions of the third FANUS Conference, which was hosted by the Food and Nutrition Association of Tanzania (FONATA) and TFNC in Arusha, Tanzania (25-29 May). The REACH staff chaired sessions on comprehensive nutrition information systems and district nutrition planning. Facilitators from five REACH countries (Ghana, Mali, Rwanda, Tanzania and...
Uganda) supported the participation of government staff from national and sub-national levels, to share their respective country experiences, particularly on district planning.

- **UN Regional Nutrition Meeting - Asia Pacific:** The UN Network/REACH Secretariat co-organised this meeting with UNSCN, which was convened for UN country teams and other stakeholders in the Asia and Pacific region, in Bangkok, Thailand (29-30 June), thanks to the support of the German Government. Participating members from the Secretariat presented how REACH was facilitating the completion of key recommended actions for the UN Network, and solicited feedback from participants in an effort to improve the newly developed tools and methodologies to support these actions at the country level.

- **‘Strengthening Effective Engagement to Scale Up Nutrition in Action’ Workshop:** REACH participated and co-organised this workshop together with the SUN Movement Secretariat, UNICEF and SUN Business Network for the East and Southern African countries in Nairobi, Kenya (10-12 June). A member of the UN Network/REACH Secretariat presented on assessing functional capacities and facilitated the workshop as part of one of the four SUN Communities of Practice.

- **Global Forum on Nutrition-Sensitive Social Protection Programs:** A member of the Secretariat participated in the forum which was held in Moscow, Russia (10-11 September) in an effort to leverage the on-going work on the Compendium of Actions for Nutrition, which the Secretariat is developing in collaboration with the partner agencies. The REACH participant facilitated working group sessions on two country case studies (Haiti and Tanzania), which are also REACH countries.

- **SUN Global Gathering:** REACH participated at the Global Gathering in Milan, Italy (20-22 October) in a number of strategic capacities. First, REACH facilitators supported government delegations and other country stakeholders prepare for the event, including materials to be presented during thematic sessions and the marketplace. Secondly, REACH facilitators from eleven countries were part of participating delegations, with a view to supporting SUN government focal points and other government staff leverage their country experiences in nutrition governance. Thirdly, REACH staff (global and country) served as panellists and facilitators during selected sessions (e.g. on common results frameworks for nutrition, the development of functional capacities and national nutrition information platforms). During the sessions, it became increasingly clear that SUN is making considerable progress where REACH facilitation support is being provided to strengthen nutrition governance.

- **UN Network Session:** Likewise, REACH actively engaged in the UN Network Session held under the auspices of the SUN Global Gathering (20 October). Staff from the Secretariat and countries helped UN colleagues prepare presentations, showcasing the emerging outputs of UN Network key actions (facilitated by REACH). REACH colleagues also enriched discussions about how the UN can more strategically come together at the country level, including the role of REACH in the UN Network.

- **‘Financing Healthcare in Africa’ conference:** REACH shared experiences on strengthening nutrition governance at the event, organized by the Collaborative Africa Budget Reform Initiative (CABRI) network. The conference was held in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania (30 November - 1 December) and provided an opportunity for REACH to share insights on the prioritization of nutrition actions, financial tracking and financing for nutrition within and beyond the health sector.
5. Partnerships and Collaboration

Throughout 2015, the Secretariat consolidated existing relationships with its partners while forging new ones. These partnerships allowed the Secretariat to pool resources and enhance staff capacity, thereby enabling it to support activities more efficiently. Further information about some strategic partnerships is outlined below.

5.1 UN Agencies

REACH is in and of itself a UN partnership. It also receives financial as well as in-kind contributions from the individual agencies as portrayed below.

- **FAO:** The rich partnership between FAO and REACH continued in 2015 and was strengthened by the achievement of a number of REACH deliverables and processes. For instance, a colleague from FAO Headquarters provided technical expertise on the extensive REACH mapping exercise that was conducted in both Burkina Faso and Senegal. Moreover, a FAO colleague in Haiti took the lead in preparing the food security section of the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview that was compiled in 2015. REACH and FAO also partnered in the area of nutrition capacity assessment/development at the country level (e.g. in Niger). In addition, a FAO consultant begun to provide support with the harmonisation of approaches on capacity assessment methodologies and tools, one of the deliverables of the UN Network.

- **IFAD:** In 2015, Haiti became the first country to include IFAD in the REACH Country Committee, which steers the REACH process at the country level. In Mozambique, IFAD was strongly engaged in completing the UN Nutrition Inventory and Agenda. While IFAD has carried out an advisory role in REACH at the global level, this increased engagement at the country level has helped strengthen the partnership between IFAD and REACH.

- **UNICEF:** The partnership between UNICEF and REACH has been particularly strong in Burundi and Chad, where UNICEF has provided the financial backing for a number of REACH activities. In 2015, UNICEF agreed to fund the REACH National Facilitator position in Chad as from 2016. UNICEF also supported the co-hosting arrangements of the facilitator in Haiti, hosting the International Facilitator three days per week. Moreover, REACH has partnered closely with UNICEF at the country level on advocacy (e.g. Mozambique) and nutrition information systems (e.g. Rwanda).

- **WFP:** Throughout 2015 WFP continued to provide active support to REACH, including the secondment of WFP staff (e.g. Global Coordinator, Administrative Assistant) to the Secretariat. It also continued to host the Secretariat at WFP Headquarters. In addition, it agreed to host the facilitators in the new REACH countries such as Guinea, Myanmar and Senegal, with partial hosting arrangements also extended to both REACH facilitators in Haiti. WFP, furthermore, continued to host both REACH facilitators in Burkina Faso in 2015.

- **WHO:** With the generous support of GAC, WHO continued supporting eleven countries to reinforce nutrition surveillance systems through the ANI Project. Eight of these countries are also REACH countries, namely: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, and Uganda. In addition, the project continued to support the scale-up of nutrition actions and mapping in three of the eleven countries (i.e. Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda) in collaboration with REACH. REACH worked closely with WHO to ensure these efforts are
harmonised. The National Facilitator in Haiti is also partly hosted by the WHO Country Office, which has helped consolidate REACH-WHO relationships in-country.

5.2 Academia and Research Institutions
In 2015, REACH continued to partner with leading universities to support REACH activities, both at the country and global levels. For instance, Columbia University staff provided their expertise, supporting REACH in the nutrition governance capacity gap assessment exercise that was conducted in Nepal. Additionally, REACH recruited three interns from Columbia University, which were deployed to Mozambique, Myanmar and Senegal to support work on REACH analytical deliverables. In 2015, REACH recruited an intern from Tufts University, who supported the successful completion of the Policy Overview in Burkina Faso under the guidance of the REACH country facilitators and the Secretariat. The Secretariat also recruited an intern from Syracuse University for the first time, who supported a range of activities, including REACH communications.

REACH also engaged with colleagues from research institutions such as IFPRI in 2015. Following the Secretariat’s participation in the Stories of Change in Nutrition workshop (January 2015), it engaged with IFPRI researchers to learn more about their emerging work on decomposition analysis for stunting, with a view to including such data in the REACH Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, where available.

5.3 Private Sector
REACH continued to collaborate with BCG in 2015 through its provision of a consultant on a one-year secondment in Rwanda, starting in November 2014. The consultant supported the updating of the Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping exercise (using the SUN PMT) as well as the development of a web-based multi-sectoral nutrition dashboard. REACH also begun to engage with the DHIS2 expert community, which developed the e-dashboard in Rwanda, and is now looking to work with them on developing a web-based SUN PMT in an effort to further simplify and refine this REACH tool.

6. Emerging Issues

6.1 REACH Transition and Sustainability
As REACH will be phasing out from Canadian funding in seven Generation 1 countries (Bangladesh, Ghana, Mozambique, Nepal, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda) in the course of 2016, issues related to transition and sustainability became particularly important in 2015. REACH transition work came in the backdrop of the external evaluation’s recommendations that in future REACH facilitation support should be provided during a 3-5 year timeframe, rather than 2-3 years. While Generation 1 countries were able to increase capacity in nutrition governance, continued support will be needed to ensure sustainability. Some of these gaps will be filled by the governments, the UN and other stakeholders, while others will require further attention and/or resources. The Secretariat will, subsequently, provide remote follow-up support to the above seven countries. It will also monitor country progress post-REACH and respond to country requests, as needed, on a cost recovery basis. Lessons learned from the transition of these countries will contribute to the transition preparations for Generation 2
countries. REACH has requested a no-cost extension from Canada to prolong engagement in the new countries through 2017.

The above measures were supplemented with other efforts to engage different donors so as to mobilize resources for REACH, both current and potential countries. There are positive prospects for securing additional resources in a few countries where facilitators have worked with local donors to provide continued facilitation support on nutrition governance.

6.2 Strategic Directions for REACH within the Context of the UN Network

In 2015, the SUN Movement began to define its strategy for 2016-2020, with the next step calling for the development of a SUN 2.0 roadmap. These efforts, together with the findings from the REACH external evaluation, have largely informed the on-going development of the UN Network/REACH 2.0 strategy, where the linkages between the SUN Movement, UN Network and REACH are being clearly articulated. Alignment and complementarity is critical for delivering common results with increased efficiency. To this end, a consultative process was initiated at the end of 2015 to help define the roles and responsibilities of the UN Network at global, regional and country levels, including how REACH will be articulated in these arrangements. The strategy also seeks to define key partnerships that will be needed, and more specifically, how the UN Network will build synergies with the UNSCN as well as with other on-going initiatives.

7. Priorities for 2016

The key 2016 priorities, as defined in the REACH Secretariat Work Plan, are highlighted below. Nevertheless, these priorities may shift slightly as the work to develop the UN Network/REACH 2.0 strategy further unfolds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Work</th>
<th>Specific Tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country Process</td>
<td>Support countries to:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Carry out analytical work (e.g. Multi-sector Nutrition Overview, Policy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Overview, Stakeholder and Nutrition Action Mapping) to inform scale-up</td>
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<td></td>
<td>discussions and planning at national/sub-national levels</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Develop national advocacy strategies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Conduct capacity gap assessments to strengthen nutrition governance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Establish implementation tracking mechanisms to monitor the implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of multi-sectoral nutrition action plans</td>
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<tr>
<td>REACH Transition</td>
<td>❖ Assist Generation 1 countries to smoothly transition out of REACH extensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Support Generation 2 countries to prepare transition and sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REACH Strategy &amp; Country</td>
<td>❖ Define and finalize the UN Network/REACH 2.0 strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expansion</td>
<td>❖ Conduct exploratory missions to countries that have requested REACH support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Mobilize resources for REACH support to countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>REACH Tools &amp; Guidance</td>
<td>❖ Develop a web-based platform for the SUN PMT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Include investment case data in the Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview</td>
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<td></td>
<td>❖ Expand the Policy Overview to include a brief analysis of the nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>planning work stream</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>❖ Further adapt REACH analytical tools for the sub-national level, as needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Knowledge-sharing & Communications | - Maintain the REACH website (e.g. gather regular ‘news’ updates and document good practices of country deliverables and other relevant developments)
- Maintain the REACH Knowledge Sharing Portal and extend access to new users on a request basis
- Prepare monthly e-Communications for REACH facilitators (and beyond) |
| Partnerships & Collaboration | - Cultivate and diversify partnerships with SUN, UNSCN, REACH UN agencies, private sector (e.g. BCG), academia (e.g. Columbia University, Tufts University), civil society, etc.
- Maintain donor relations and expand donor base to meet increased demand for REACH support |
| SUN Networks | - Support countries to set-up and strengthen in-country networks, in particular the UN Network for SUN |
| Monitoring & Evaluation | - Support baseline assessments in new countries
- Help carry out endline assessments where REACH engagement is ending |
### Annex

**UN Network for SUN - 2015 Key Achievements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY LEVEL</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>❖ Progressive establishment of UN networks in SUN countries with 29 Chairs confirmed at the end of 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Completion of UN Nutrition Inventory in Ghana and Mozambique; drafted in Burkina Faso and Myanmar; on-going in Mali and Philippines</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Pilots on</td>
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<tr>
<td>- UN Nutrition Agenda/Strategy in Mozambique</td>
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<tr>
<td>- UN Network Dashboard in Ghana and Mozambique</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GLOBAL &amp; REGIONAL LEVELS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>❖ Development and dissemination of information package (e.g. FAQ, one-pager on UN Network) and TORs for the operationalization of the UN Network in all SUN countries and translated in three languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Elaboration of an Explanatory Note on the Agenda 2030, SUN Movement, WHA targets, Zero Hunger Challenge, and ICN2 Rome Declaration Commitments</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Development of UN Network tools and guidance:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Development of a template for the UN Nutrition Inventory outputs to help highlight the main country findings from this exercise</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Development of UN Network Guidance Package on UN Nutrition Inventory and UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda (incl. templates) and dissemination in three languages</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Creation of a draft UN Network Dashboard tool/template and consultations with UN colleagues to inform the finalization of the tool</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Review of the Compendium of Actions for Nutrition with inputs from external experts and preparation of a matrix of actions, reflecting the outcomes of the review</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Launch of inter-agency process to harmonise approaches on capacity assessment methodologies and tools for use by national governments and other stakeholders at the country level</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Review of the national nutrition plans for the 55 SUN Countries which highlighted interesting trends in the status of plans and the extent to which they accounted for multi-sectorality, critical target groups and thematic areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Development and launch of <strong>UN Global Nutrition Agenda</strong>, v. 1.0, in collaboration with UNSCN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Organisation of a <strong>UN regional meeting for country teams in Asia and the Pacific region</strong> with UNSCN to take stock of UN nutrition support to governments and way forward. The meeting brought together over 112 regional and country colleagues from 15 countries in the Asia and the Pacific region as well as donors, civil society and other global stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Active participation in the <strong>SUN Global Gathering</strong>, where a <strong>Global UN Network meeting</strong> was convened. The UN Network session provided an opportunity to showcase the emerging work on the UN Network at country level and to discuss the strategic issues in order for the UN Network to enhance its contribution to the SUN Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Contributions to global SUN processes, incl. SUN 2.0 strategy development, SUN Network Facilitator calls and SUN Country Network calls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Securing The Future of Children

By working together through coordinated, multi-sectoral nutrition actions, mothers and children can receive the nutrition support they need!
REACH – Contact Details

c/o World Food Programme, via Cesare Giulio Viola 68/70, 00148 Rome – ITALY
Tel: +39 06 6513 2988
www.reachpartnership.org