

## PROCEEDINGS

### SCALING UP NUTRITION MOVEMENT SENIOR LEVEL MEETING

Thursday 14 – Friday 15 March 2013  
Brussels

#### OPENING ADDRESS –ANDRIS PIEBALGS, EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT

Since its launch in 2010, the SUN Movement has become the international forum for nutrition. It has put nutrition on the international development agenda; and it provides us with the leadership needed to make undernutrition a thing of the past.



The face of poverty is the face of a stunted child. Recent trips to Burundi and Malawi have provided stark reminders of this. Despite progress in increasing food production, nutrition has been neglected; levels of stunting amongst under-five year old children in both countries is near 50%.

The post-2015 agenda provides the opportunity to bring renewed focus on nutrition. Nutrition should become a goal in itself, coupled with hunger. As the world's largest grant donor, and largest donor in food security, the EU should lead by example. This week the EU adopted a Communication on Nutrition, which sets 2 targets:

1. To support partner countries to achieve at least 10% of of the World Health Assembly's target on reducing stunting by 2025. In other words, by that date our efforts will have resulted in at least 7 million fewer stunted children.
2. To work to reduce the number of children under 5 who are wasted.

A detailed action plan will be developed over the coming months, which will outline how these targets will be achieved, under three strategic priorities:

1. To mobilise political commitment for nutrition at country and international levels;
2. To scale up nutrition interventions;
3. To significantly broaden the global knowledge base on what works best in nutrition.

Accountability will be central to the achievement of such results. The SUN Movement's momentum and credibility requires better reporting on what has been achieved together. A proper system to track spending on nutrition is the foundation of a robust accountability framework. One of the expected outcomes of this meeting is to be able to reach agreement on common principles that should be applied to resource tracking and which can then be endorsed by the SUN Lead Group.

A second key deliverable of the meeting is to build a consensus around a results monitoring framework. Together with the SUN Secretariat, technical experts and other donors, the EC has been developing an approach to measure impact in relation to stunting targets. It is cutting edge work and we very much hope that, by the end of this meeting, we will be in a position to ask the SUN Lead Group to endorse our approach.

The EC's commitment to combating undernutrition is here to stay. Collectively, we can move forward quickly. We owe it to the millions whose lives are blighted by undernutrition not only to pursue our efforts, but to increase them.

### Keynote speech -Tom Arnold CEO, Concern Worldwide

2013 is a year of opportunities for nutrition:

- The April event in Dublin, under the Irish Presidency of the EU, is a Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Climate Change Justice.
- In May, UNICEF and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs are convening an International Conference Against Undernutrition. To be held in Paris, the event will focus on Sub Saharan Africa.
- In June, preceding the G8 Summit in London, DfID and CIFF (Children's Investment Fund Foundation) will co-host a high-level event, where new high level commitments will be expected.
- Soon after, Concern Worldwide and Bread for the World will convene a Civil Society event in Washington.
- In September, the High-Level Panel will meet on the post-2015 Agenda, where it is hoped that nutrition will feature prominently.



All these meetings represent an unprecedented opportunity to mobilise the international community for the reduction of hunger and stunting in the world. The political and policy context for nutrition has never been more favourable. We have an opportunity and a duty to use this unique set of circumstances – and should seize the moment.

### Marie-Pierre Allié President of the French section, MSF



Acute malnutrition has long been considered an issue of emergencies, and attention has all too often focused on relief rather than prevention. Historically, malnourished children were treated in centres, with complicated therapies that posed additional burdens on mothers. The first change came in the 1980s when therapeutic milk was developed. Then, in the early 2000's, ready-to-use-therapeutic-food was developed which decentralized care to the household. It revolutionised the treatment of severe acute malnutrition.

Despite such progress, the outlook is still gloomy; it is difficult to imagine scaling up treatment to reach the 20 million severely malnourished children globally. We need a paradigm shift so that treatment of acute malnutrition is not left to humanitarian emergency response but is integrated in development programming.

### Juan Pablo Silva Macher Viceministro de Políticas y Evaluación Social, Perú

The Government of Peru has committed to reducing and eliminating undernutrition through a rights-based approach. Substantial progress has been made over the last 5 years, and the MDG target on hunger has already been achieved. Three main pillars have been critical to this success:

1. high-level political commitment: reducing undernutrition is a national priority.
2. people-oriented, inclusive policy: based on the needs of citizens, not of institutions.
3. a performance-based budgeting framework: linking policy to results and results to budget allocation.



On-going challenges include: the need to reduce disparities/gaps in undernutrition, not just the national average (this will require specific targeting to reach those that have traditionally been left out); coordination (across sectors); and monitoring and evaluation (with clear links to management and policy decision-making).

**Yoka Brandt** Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

Three points need to be underscored:

1. This is a critical time - 2013 is a year of opportunities (as well as challenges). We must accelerate efforts and plan how to tackle stunting and other forms of malnutrition in the post-MDG development agenda.
2. We know how to prevent stunting and how to treat acute malnutrition. By improving nutrition we can improve resilience of communities and nations. In the words of Anthony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director and SUN Lead Group chair: 'stunting is maker of poverty and a marker of progress'.
3. We know that investment in nutrition is cost-effective. We need to be transparent, measure our impact and share our results. Programmes need to be adjusted according to these results. We know what's possible when there is the political will, together with appropriate (levels of) investment.



## **SESSION 1: NUTRITION IN THE POST-MDG AGENDA. A GLOBAL COMMITMENT TO REDUCE UNDERNUTRITION BEYOND 2015**

**Moderator: David Nabarro**

Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Food Security & Nutrition

Three processes are underway, helping shape the international agenda post-2015:

- The work of the *UN High-Level Panel* on the Post-2015 Agenda, which will report in September 2013.
- *The Future We Want*: 100 country and 11 thematic consultations, that will help guide thinking on how to include emerging and pressing issues in the post-2015 development agenda.
- *Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals of 30 Member States* tasked with proposing new universal sustainable development goals that should build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) while inspiring and galvanizing action by early 2014.



**Presentation - Lawrence Haddad** Director IDS, UK

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-1-presentation-lawrence-haddad>

Several principles are guiding the Post-2015 Agenda:

- Goals are global, not aimed at 'developing' countries only
- A better balance between outcomes, outputs and inputs
- A greater focus on resource use and the environment
- Attention on equity
- More on transparency and accountability
- More on peace and security
- Keep the number of goals small, and achieve greater public recognition
- Put in place a Monitoring and Evaluation plan.



These, together with ideas from interviewees, point to 3 options on how nutrition could be incorporated in the Post-2015 Agenda:

| Option  | Advantages  | Risks   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Separate nutrition goal  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrition hard to ignore by those who care about the MDGs</li> <li>• Supports SUN directly</li> <li>• “Reducing malnutrition” is easy to communicate</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All or nothing strategy is high risk given the lack of political momentum/home for a separate nutrition goal</li> <li>• Nutrition easier to ignore by other sectors and other goals</li> </ul> |
| 2. Incorporate nutrition indicators and targets into other goals      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More feasible</li> <li>• The alignment of the goal “buckets”, especially (1) the separation of poverty and hunger and (2) the clustering of health, may favour nutrition</li> <li>• Potential leveraging of larger resource flows/energy of the other goals</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrition remains invisible and falls through the cracks—no single champion</li> <li>• Fractures reporting on nutrition progress</li> <li>• Divides nutrition community</li> </ul>             |
| 3. Enhancement of current MDG1 by replacing underweight with stunting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement on status quo</li> <li>• Feasible</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too unambitious a signal to send—too weak a negotiating position</li> <li>• No reason to think stunting will be any more visible than underweight was</li> </ul>                               |

The best position would be to bracket hunger and undernutrition as equal, but different, partners, and also, to position nutrition horizontally across different goals, with 5 or 6 nutrition-specific/sensitive indicators. Positioning nutrition smartly in the post-2015 settlement is more about politics than technical considerations. So it is important that the nutrition community aligns behind one option and speaks with one voice to rally potential allies in other sectors/themes – and does it quickly as time is running out.

## **Discussants**

### **Abdoulaye Ka** Coordonnateur National, Cellule de Lutte contre la Malnutrition, Sénégal



The MDGs helped to put nutrition firmly on Senegal’s development agenda. In terms of post-2015, it is important to reconcile development and emergency agendas and establish a more coherent dialogue. This requires attention to both stunting and wasting. Coordination is key, both at national and international levels. Policies and strategies are also needed, tailored to the context. And national budgets need to include investments to achieve the nutrition goals/indicators.

### **Michael Anderson** Director General for Policy and Global Issues, DFID



The post-2015 agenda will be framed as a set of goals – they will only work if they are simple and inspiring, and move people to mobilise resources, take action and coordinate efforts in a particular direction. The MDGs did that – they assumed a social, political and economic life. The goals need not be technically perfect; they need to be technically grounded but inspirational. Now is the time for the nutrition community to come together. Stunting and wasting will be relatively easy to get in, whereas women’s nutrition and overweight in children are more challenging.

### **Paul Weisenfeld** Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Food Security, USAID



Our understanding of the multi-sectoral complexity that is required to address undernutrition should drive our recommendations on where nutrition should sit in the post-2015 era. This requires that we use key nutrition indicators across the goals: elevating stunting, and using indicators across other sectors. As donors, we need to drive our programmes in a similar way.

There is a pressing need to clarify nutrition-specific versus nutrition-sensitive approaches. We can’t do good tracking without good definitions. Also, good definitions will help drive the development of knowledge and evidence of what works.

**Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens** Sous-directeur de la santé, de la sécurité alimentaire et du développement humain, France



Two processes are currently running in parallel: one on the post-2015 goals and another on the new sustainable development objectives. These two need to come together in one post-2015 framework for development. Our ability to defend nutrition will be much stronger if we can include other elements of sustainable and social development. This would be a stimulating exercise, as it would make sectors work together that otherwise would not. There are numerous areas where nutrition has impact and we should leverage these. And we need to ensure that we can measure progress – that we have the statistics.

**Klaus Rudischhauser** Deputy Director-General, Policy and Thematic Coordination, EC DG DEVCO



There is a real challenge in that nutrition does not feature prominently in the wider development agenda, so it may not feature prominently in the future framework. Also, since the indicators for MDG 1 have not shifted much over the last 20 years, politicians may be reluctant to back something that has already been tried and failed. Trying to get the sustainable development goals and post-2015 processes into one framework may add further complications, because it broadens the set of issues that need to be addressed. And yet there is a need to ensure that nutrition finds its place in the future goals and in indicators across different goals. If there is agreement on this, then a recommendation can be put to Commissioner Piebalgs to raise it with the High-Level Panel.

### Comments from plenary

A political case needs to be made that stunting affects national development goals. This needs to be communicated in a language that speaks to policy-makers. Nutrition needs to be understood as a basic need, linked to food security.

The goals should be linked to budgets, so that they move from being aspirational to being part of the process of government. The goals should be drivers of action. It is vital that an incentives-framework be developed that supports the achievement of the goals. This requires coordination, which is costly.

If we want real commitment to nutrition, the Ministries of Finance need to be engaged. Consideration could even be given to stunting as a measure of poverty and economic development.

## SESSION 2: ACCOUNTABILITY OF INVESTMENTS IN NUTRITION. DEVELOPING A SUN RESOURCE TRACKING METHODOLOGY AND REPORTING SYSTEM FOR NUTRITION RELEVANT INTERVENTIONS

**Moderator: Diane Jacovella** Vice-President Multilateral and Global Programs Branch, CIDA



Improved resource tracking is integral to the SUN movement accountability framework. The SUN Secretariat and Donor Network have embarked on a process to harmonise resource-tracking approaches, to bring consistency and coherence in reporting and provide more accurate information on investments for nutrition. Ultimately, this should contribute to improving resource mobilisation for nutrition by highlighting gaps and incentivising a nutrition focus in programming.



## Presentation - Jean-Pierre Halkin

Head of Unit Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition, EC DG DEVCO

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-2-presentation-jean-pierre-halkin>



A resource tracking system is needed in order to show that donors are supporting countries and are accountable for their rhetoric. It is also important for identifying any gaps and advocating for resource mobilisation (by partner countries and international donors). It is desirable that any donor reporting system is consistent with the reporting format used by partner countries; and it should also be easily understandable by non-finance experts. It is proposed that three categories of investments are monitored:

1. Spending on nutrition-specific interventions;
2. Spending on nutrition-sensitive interventions (specifically designed to address undernutrition);
3. Spending that has impact on the underlying determinants of undernutrition.

Each of these categories will then be 'scored' to indicate the proportion of spending that can be reasonably assigned to nutrition. For category 1, 100% of spending will count; for category 2, where nutrition is a main objective, then 100% of spending will count; where nutrition is a significant objective, then x% (yet to be determined) will count; for category 3, y% of spending will count.

The EC tested this with its portfolio in Niger and Laos, where it is acting as SUN Donor Convenor. Of the 55 projects identified as relevant to nutrition, 3 were nutrition-specific, 3 were nutrition-sensitive and 16 addressed underlying determinants. For the purposes of this pilot, x% of nutrition sensitive was set at 60% and y% for addressing underlying determinants was set at 30%. Together, these 32 projects amounted to €27.7M out of a total of €131.2M.

Having agreed on these categories, the next step is to further develop the definition for each category, and to agree on the scoring for each.

Another, lighter, approach being considered is to allocate a set % of resources that count for different sectors (identified through existing DAC codes), regardless of how nutrition is featured. Or, there may be merit in using both approaches.

Whatever the final decision, donors need to institutionalise their nutrition reporting, be consistent and to proceed in an aligned manner. The Donor Network will be submitting results to the SUN Secretariat by July, so that they can be incorporated in the full SUN Progress Report for 2013, which will be presented at the UN General Assembly in September.

## Discussants:

**Mahaman Hallarou** Chief Division of Prevention of Malnutrition, Ministry of Health, Niger



The "3 N" initiative - *Les Nigériens Nourrissent les Nigériens* - has been developed by the government, establishing strong leadership on issues around hunger and nutrition. The Government of Niger is firmly in the driving seat: donors did not approach the government, but the government approached donors.

With recurring crises, there is a real awareness of the problem of under nutrition. In Niger, most investments in nutrition are made in crises, which have limited impact on stunting and other forms of undernutrition. The government would like to strengthen partnerships with other actors to ensure a comprehensive approach.

There are many quality issues in terms of how money is spent; so capturing lessons from good and bad practice would be helpful. Monitoring systems also need to be strengthened. Proxy – global - models may not always be useful.

**Brendan Rogers** Director General, Irish Aid, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland



Ireland is committed to reporting on its nutrition spending, and would like to see a system that is robust, manageable and understandable. It has also to be applicable to all donors. For these reasons, Ireland would be happy to begin by using the set DAC % allocations, and build up a more detailed approach in time.

Some sort of independent verification would be desirable, and this is a role that CSOs could possibly take on.

**Nicole Klingen** Acting Director for Health, Nutrition and Population, The World Bank



We all want to be accountable. We need to align with domestic funding reporting, and build mutual accountability across countries and the international level. If stunting is a core indicator in national development strategies, then build up a monitoring system around that. Donors are interested in tracking their contribution, not attribution. We need to get more money for nutrition and more nutrition for the money.

**Anna Taylor** Senior Nutrition Advisor, DFID, UK



This is fundamentally important if we are to answer the question ‘does money follow the political commitments being made?’ The challenge is in balancing simplicity and rigour – especially in establishing the baseline data (2010) that will be in the September SUN report.

The methodology needs to be replicable so that comparisons can be made across countries and across donors. We therefore need to ensure that we are making the same judgements across different donor portfolios. It needs to be kept simple so that the system is sustained and institutionalised. Then it would be more attractive to a wider group of donors.

The tracking of (financial) inputs will hopefully be aligned with the tracking of results – in countries and globally. A common approach, led by countries, would be ideal so that donors can align behind them.

### Comments from plenary

There was a great deal of support for this work, whilst acknowledging the challenges ahead. David Nabarro made the point that though tracking investments is important, it is not as important as tracking impact. And tracking impact requires that all actors are working together on a single set of results. We must also recognise that there are non-cash inputs (such as capacity, infrastructure, political energy and so on) that also need to be recognised. The Donor Network’s work is crucial and is progressing alongside other work being undertaken by countries, giving a value to investments not normally associated with nutrition.

Partner countries acknowledged their responsibility to ensure delivery against donor funds. Basket funding might be a useful mechanism to ring-fence funds at country level specifically for nutrition.

The **moderator** then summed up the session by reiterating that: donors are holding themselves accountable; a resource tracking system needs to be simple yet credible; more work is needed to refine the details (whilst acknowledging that it won’t be perfect); this work needs to align with country efforts and plans; gaps will be filled by leveraging existing resources as well as (possibly) additional funds; and it is critical that, collectively, we will be able to demonstrate impact.

**Moderator: Hanns-Christoph Eiden** President of the Federal Office of Agriculture and Food, Germany



Is there a role for agriculture in respect of nutrition security?

Do farmers simply have to produce enough food for a growing population or do they also have a responsibility regarding nutrition?

Which kind of action is needed and what are the core fields for action?

To what extent do we have to look at the context (health, hygiene, improved knowledge about nutrition climate change)?

**Presentation -Brian Thompson** Senior Nutrition Advisor FAO

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-3-presentation-brian-thompson>



Making reference to these questions, the presenter focused on smallholders, quality, market orientation and sustainability. These are key to describing the numerous ways in which agriculture can improve nutrition security, for example by:

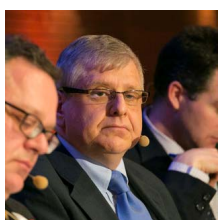
- Supporting smallholder farmers to increase their income, as often the best way to escape poverty
- Improving the food quantity as well as dietary quality consumed by poor and vulnerable communities
- Encouraging farmers to produce surplus crops in order to be able to supply the (local) food industry.
- Reducing losses
- Targeting improved research and development, and technologies towards small farmers and sustainable production
- Closing the nutrition gap by safeguarding the nutrient content of food all along the food chain
- Providing social protection for the landless poor and others unable to benefit from development.

### **Discussants:**



**Edith Mkawa** Secretary for Nutrition, HIV&AIDS, Malawi

Malawi has a strong governance architecture for nutrition, overseen by the Parliamentary Committee on Nutrition, HIV and AIDS. Inter-sectoral coordination is key. There are also strong links across central, regional, district and community levels, largely through health extension workers, agriculture extension workers and village care workers. The government supports a fertiliser subsidy for maize producers, to increase domestic food production; and is also starting to help farmers to diversify to other crops.



**Marc Van Ameringen** Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)

Agriculture alone cannot address stunting; it needs to be complemented with other nutrition-sensitive approaches. The CAADP<sup>1</sup> effort to look at nutrition in agriculture investment plans is encouraging a shift – and we need to bolster that by demonstrating how nutrition can be integrated with agriculture programmes in order to achieve improved productivity, securer livelihoods as well as improved nutrition. The evidence-base for this is still being built; there is a desire to use those pilots that are working to take them to scale.



**Alex Rees** Head of Hunger Reduction and Livelihoods, Save the Children

The Cost of Diet shows that 25%-50% of populations in high-burden countries cannot afford a nutritious diet. A meta-analysis of results using the household economy approach in Asia and Africa shows the importance of livestock to nutritious diets. This needs to feature more prominently in agriculture policies to strengthen links with nutrition. The political economy is also important for nutrition. What are the trade-offs

<sup>1</sup>The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme <http://www.nepad-caadp.net/>



between high-value cash crops and nutrition-sensitive agriculture approaches?

**Loretta Dormal-Marino** Deputy Director-General International Affairs ECDG AGRI



Agriculture needs to be considered from the perspective of both economic and environmental sustainability. This is a particular challenge for the EU, needing to balance income production with environmental protection. To this end, the EU is targeting direct support in order to shift the distribution of resources more in favour of smallholder farmers - linked to their land and to the public goods they provide.

#### Comments from plenary

There was a general consensus about the need to further develop a nutrition sensitive agriculture, an agriculture, which produces nutritious food in a sustainable and affordable way in order to overcome hunger and poverty.

The issue is complex, target groups (smallholders, women) need to be addressed specifically, best practices and models are of high importance.

A holistic approach and a long-term commitment are necessary. Tanzania offers a good example of this, where 80% of malnourished children live in rural areas, in families that depend on staple food crops for both nutrition and income. But climate change is making maize production untenable in some areas. So the government is encouraging high-value crops, such as pineapple, alongside food crops, including sorghum.

There may be a gap in the international response to agriculture, in that insufficient attention is given to the specifics of the food system in each country (e.g. subsistence agriculture or more commercialised systems). A better understanding of the food system points to the drivers for agricultural growth – linked to nutrition. Food and Nutrition security and the fight against climate change must be high on the political agenda.

#### SESSION 4: FINANCING OF NUTRITION.

(PARALLEL SESSION)

**Moderator : Marie-Pierre Allié** President of the French section, MSF

**Costing National Nutrition Plans** **Meera Shekar** Lead Health & Nutrition Specialist, World Bank

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-4-presentation-meera-shekar>



Phase 1 of the World Bank's costing work was undertaken at the global level. This focused on a subset of the 13 'proven' nutrition-specific interventions, which had a delivery mechanism that would allow scale-up. Regional cost multipliers were applied, and then, intervention-by-intervention, current global coverage was estimated. The extra investments required to fill the gap with respect to global coverage targets were then calculated. \$11.8 billion was the total gap; households and private sources were assumed would provide \$1.5 billion, leaving a financing gap

of \$10.3 billion. A phased approach to scale-up was then considered.

Phase 2 is underway, in partnership with the Gates Foundation. Work has begun in Nigeria, Togo and Zambia. The method is customised to each country, based on their plans. For each country, a costed scale-up plan is developed - not just a costed plan. The process is helping to build national (costing) capacity so that plans can be adapted and refined in future. The World Bank is willing to explore nutrition-sensitive options, though the methodology for this is not yet clear.

### **Costing Exercises in SUN Countries David Nabarro** SUN Movement Coordinator

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-4-presentation-david-nabarro>



The SUN Movement is building on the World Bank's work, and is developing 4 sets of analyses:

- Applying the global World Bank estimates to SUN countries;
- Calculating the cost per newborn child of preventing irreversible stunting;
- Estimating the costs of nutrition-sensitive investments;
- Developing evidence from a 'bundle' of SUN countries that can then be applied to other countries.

The SUN Secretariat is developing a classification of interventions to frame existing plans so that they can be comparable: 4 groups of nutrition-specific interventions are included (good nutrition practices; micronutrients; management of acute malnutrition; and food with nutrients for pregnant/lactating women and children 6-23 months). Nutrition-sensitive approaches are included (food security and agriculture; the care environment; health and WASH) as well as governance (e.g. advocacy and communication, policy development, coordination etc.).

The 16 costed plans finalised to date for SUN countries amount to \$10.3bn, but they are for different periods of time (most are 5 year plans) so are not directly comparable. \$2.6bn is required for nutrition-specific interventions; \$7bn for nutrition-sensitive; and \$0.7bn for governance. The average per capita cost to finance national nutrition scale-up plans is \$3.45 per year (ranging from \$0.01 to \$17.17). Most countries did not include their own spending; or activities already under way; or activities funded externally. This work will continue over the coming weeks, with the aim of examining the financing gaps for each country.

### **CMAM Financing Jeremy Shoham** Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN)

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-4-presentation-jeremy-shoham-and-carmel-dolan>

CMAM (community based management of acute malnutrition) is a cost-effective and scalable response. Yet only 10% of the global burden of children with uncomplicated SAM (severe acute malnutrition) is currently being treated through CMAM. There are no comparative figures for MAM (moderate acute malnutrition) or complicated SAM. Though cost-effective, CMAM is expensive, at between \$70 and \$200 per child treated. 50% of this covers ready-to-use food.



CMAM financing is mostly through humanitarian channels and therefore short-term and unpredictable. This has led to stop-start programming, making it difficult to integrate CMAM into national systems. National government stakeholders are marginalised from decision-making and control. Programmes for acute malnutrition tend to lack coherence. UNICEF, WFP and WHO are effectively responsible for different severities of the same condition. Overall, there is no clear vision for the financing of CMAM. Acute malnutrition needs to be understood as a development concern. If left untreated, it will impact on stunting reduction efforts. It would be very helpful if WHO looked at the relationship between wasting and stunting and provided policy guidance on this.

Effective scale-up of CMAM requires multi-year funding. A review of the memoranda of understanding between the UN agencies could help to identify how collaboration could be made more effective and

efficient with respect to acute malnutrition. And donors could usefully consider the links between their financing arrangements and programming on the ground.

**Catalytic Financing of Nutrition**     **Augustin Flory** Executive Director, CIFF

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-4-presentation-augustin-flory>

The SUN Donor Network asked CIFF to look into options for catalytic financing for nutrition – as a possible means of help to fill the gap in financing. Any catalytic funding mechanism should be complementary to the more traditional mechanisms, and additional, rather than a displacement of, existing funding. The focus is on catalysing change to improve nutrition outcomes, rather than on innovations in financing. ‘Catalysing change’ could be in terms of how nutrition is funded as well as how nutrition is delivered. A clearer understanding of the links between nutrition and economic growth would help to leverage new partners.

CIFF is progressing this work in partnership with the Milken Institute, which has expertise in Financial Innovations Labs. To date, findings indicate that: there is need for mechanisms to catalyse change both in public and private funds; there is limited support for a new global fund for nutrition; and strong messages are needed around the benefit of co-investments between partners and national governments. Options identified include: i) mechanisms that would catalyse the acceleration of high-impact prioritised country plans (i.e. to change the trajectory of what’s already happening); ii) mechanisms to catalyse a greater role for the private sector; and iii) various product and instrument-specific mechanisms.

It should, however, be emphasised that there is no magic bullet, and putting together a new mechanism will be extremely complex and time consuming, particularly given the fact that current nutrition needs and spending are still being determined. Results from the innovations lab will be presented at the June G8 event.

**Comments from plenary**

There is a sense of urgency – with only 11 weeks to go before June 8<sup>th</sup>.

The CAADP process to mainstream nutrition in agricultural investment plans looked at the cost implications. This involved agricultural economists who wanted clearer guidance on how to integrate nutrition into agricultural plans. Although it could be argued that greater nutritional gains could be made through agriculture at no extra cost, it may be that the process of making agriculture nutrition-sensitive will have costs, at least at the beginning stages. Nevertheless, the benefits would undoubtedly outweigh such costs.

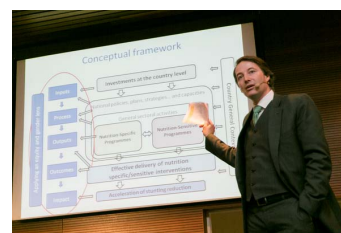
There is scope to be more conscious of efficiency gains that can be made by utilising resources for better outcomes. This includes household resources, which requires that they have the necessary knowledge to make such decisions.

Also, the mechanisms to deliver costed plans vary across countries. Nevertheless, costs will be lower if the processes are rooted in the local development agenda. Nutrition is a development, not just health, concern.

## SESSION 5: RESULTS MONITORING IN NUTRITION. WORKING TOWARDS A RESULTS MONITORING SYSTEM TO MEASURE THE IMPACT OF NUTRITION INTERVENTIONS

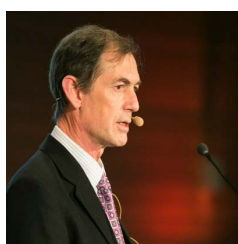
**Moderator: Kristian Schmidt**

Director Sustainable Growth and Development, EC DG DEVCO



**Presentation - Yves Martin-Prével** Nutrition Advisory Service, EC

Full Presentation: <http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/hunger-foodsecurity-nutrition/document/session-5-presentation-yves-martin-pr%C3%A9vel>



A results monitoring methodology is being considered in the context of the EC's target to reduce stunting by 7 million and in the context of the global WHA (World Health Assembly) target to reduce stunting by 40% by 2025.

The proposed methodology is based on:

1. the establishment of country baselines identifying the gap between the current trend of stunting reduction and the trend that would be required to achieve the WHA target; and
2. the establishment of an 'Evaluation Platform Approach' to monitor the impact of interventions in countries. This is an observational approach, relying on documenting the plausibility of the effectiveness of large-scale programmes, as opposed to the evidence-based group comparisons approach in experimental designs.

The WHA target uses the 2010 baseline figure of over 170 million stunted children worldwide. The 40% reduction target would see that figure drop to around 100 million by 2025. If efforts continue at the same pace, at a global average annual rate of reduction (AARR) of 2.1% a year, then we can expect that there would be a reduction of nearly 40 million stunted children by 2025. But the WHA target requires a reduction of 70 million; this would require a doubling of the current AARR.

The establishment of National Evaluation Platforms would allow:-

- Tracking of progress in stunting reduction
- Linking this to in-country nutrition investments
- Determining the interventions that have been set-up or scaled-up as a result of these investments
- Monitoring how well these interventions are implemented
- Assessing whether stunting changes can be specifically linked to any of these interventions.

In principle, it would be feasible to develop National Evaluation Platforms focused on stunting. A number of technical measures would be needed [e.g. to adapt the existing platform design and modelling tools to focus on stunting (rather than mortality); to develop a preliminary approach on the effectiveness of nutrition-sensitive interventions (which can be refined as more evidence becomes available); and to agree on indicators for programme implementation, strength and coverage]. These would be best undertaken by a working group of experts – from academic, UN, donor institutions – with full and active involvement of countries. This might be best organised under the auspices of a host body that can provide the necessary co-ordination support (such as the SUN Secretariat). But details are to be worked out.

## **Discussants:**

**Pak Minarto** Director of Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Indonesia



Stunting is an indicator in the National Development Plan for Indonesia. Various sources of data are available providing information on stunting rates. Stunting is declining but the decline is slow to emerge, and some provinces have very high levels of stunting. Indonesia has a decentralised structure and it is important to have information by provinces.

**Francesco Branca** Director Department of Nutrition for Health and Development of SCN/WHO



There are 2 components to this work – monitoring and evaluation. We need both, but we also need to be able to distinguish between the two. The framework presented provides a good basis for this. The focus on plausibility rather than strictly evidence is also helpful, especially for nutrition-sensitive approaches.

There are several challenges (including variations in when stunting emerges; ensuring sound data quality; having the right level of disaggregation to make international comparisons whilst also be practical enough for countries; getting data for process and so on). But there are clear opportunities too, in that the proposed approach is based on existing information systems; there are several actors interested in investing in such an approach; and there was a great deal of convergence among them. The SUN UN Network is ready to help.

**Werner Schultink** Associate Director Nutrition, UNICEF



We currently depend on large national surveys for key information, including stunting. Such surveys are typically undertaken every 3 years. So we don't know if our investments are making a difference until three years later. We need a better handle on whether our strategies are adequate and efficient. The 10 determinants of whether interventions work can be categorised in 4 groups: Enabling environment (management and coordination capacity); Supply component (availability of commodities and human resources); Demand component (access to finances, issues that hamper use of services); Quality component.

UNICEF is analysing information at different levels using new methodologies.

**Lawrence Haddad** Director IDS

Five points, reflecting on the presentation:

1. Use existing data – yes, but we need to get better at using it
2. Need some real-time monitoring, perhaps using new technologies (with potential, here, for private sector support) – e.g. M-Nutrition, like M-Health
3. Harmonisation is really important and differentiated targets are key - though tricky too. There will be an inevitable trade off between harmonisation and ownership.
4. Agree that we need to monitor processes and not just outcomes, such as coverage, costs etc.
5. National capacity is very low, especially for knowledge management and knowledge use – this will be the critical constraint.

A final point worth underscoring: it can be done!

**David Nabarro** SUN Movement Coordinator

The idea of *Networked Information Systems for Nutrition* emerged from a 1-day discussion on the proposed methodology (on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013, in Geneva). The following 10 characteristics were agreed:

1. Requested by countries committed to improving nutrition, and required by members of the WHA;
2. Builds on existing information systems, is designed to serve national Governments of countries scaling up nutrition and delivers information of value to their leaders – and their people;
3. Produces information for country-level decision making – monitoring results (focusing on core global indicators), assessing effectiveness of interventions, evaluating the impact of investments;



4. In particular, it allows countries to set up stunting reduction targets based on "state of the art" methodology to assess national trends.
5. Is built on multi-sectoral platforms for nutrition within countries (involving gender, health, agriculture, employment, education, water/sanitation and employment)
6. Will be transparent and credible, and fully accessible to all government sectors, civil society groups, development partners and all stakeholders
7. Should be implemented through a worldwide network of capable organizations – mostly in Southern countries – with a view to long-term sustainability
8. Could be grounded in the SUN Movement, under the stewardship of the SUN Lead Group, and to be initiated in 2013
9. Would be guided by a Technical Task Team and linked to UN system agencies to enable the standardization of data
10. Urgently needed so as to enable all stakeholders to contribute to realizing the global nutrition targets agreed at 2012 WHA – especially the stunting target

### Comments from plenary

A great deal of interest in, and support of, the results monitoring approach was voiced. It would go a long way to meeting the huge demand for greater accountability across stakeholders in the SUN Movement. However, cautionary notes were also raised about the time this would likely take to build at country level, and the challenge of dealing with the limited evidence around nutrition-sensitive approaches.

## SESSION 6: PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN NUTRITION SECURITY.

**Moderator: Miguel Pestana** Vice President Global External Affairs, Unilever



**Presentation - Jay Naidoo** Chairman Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)



The marketplace for nutritious foods is a knowledge, networking and financing platform to support local enterprises in developing countries. We need to better understand the barriers along value chains and to identify the constraints preventing governments and countries from improving nutrition and livelihoods. Overcoming them will require greater collaboration – particularly with trade unions that have huge reach.

The world's food system is worth approximately \$4 trillion; yet it is broken and dysfunctional. This is not a technocratic but a political issue. Much of the focus has been on global multi-nationals; yet they account for only 20% of the food system; small holders, small/medium enterprises and subsistence farmers account for the bulk. So the reality is that the bulk of food is produced in the local marketplace – by women. How do we increase the number of nutritious products on the market and ensure that access is universal?

We need to re-orientate the debate about the role of the private sector –focusing not on what we are against, but what are we for. What form of collaboration do we need? Guided by what principles?

## Discussants:

**Heike Henn** Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany



The German Development Cooperation strives to initiate innovative and inclusive business models with the private sector that focus on smallholders. It is important to have a real understanding not only of the potential but also of the challenges. The German Food Partnership has 35 business members and gets support from government. Its aims are to: create long-term partnerships; and cooperate with the private sector on both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive approaches.

**Obey AsseryNkya** Secretary of High Level Steering Committee, Office of the Prime Minister, Tanzania



There is need to clearly define what goods and services the private sector can provide and to build trust between the public and private sectors. A better understanding of the linkages between private companies and smallholders will enable better support to rural subsistence farmers. In Tanzania, the private sector is involved in the SUN multi-stakeholder platform; there is also gazette legislation for mandatory food fortification of oil and wheat flour. In June there will be a launch of 'Marketplace for Nutrition'. Beyond food, the private sector can support nutrition through advocacy; communication/messaging; and possibly, public goods through private health facilities.

**Venkatesh Mannar** President of the Micronutrient Initiative



As Jay said, it's not a question of if but how we engage with the private sector. The health sector has seen a significant shift from public to private provision of services (e.g. in India, 80% of the population access health care through private units). There are several ways to engage businesses: through their core business; by encouraging them to ensure the well-being of the communities in which they operate (i.e. going beyond corporate social responsibility); and through chambers of commerce working with governments to develop policies that more strongly address the challenges of undernutrition

**Paulus Verschuren** Special Envoy on Food and Nutrition Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands



The Netherlands government has established a Ministry of Trade and Development, thereby signalling that development gains won't be possible without the private sector. Everything we do should be about helping people to help themselves. AIM – the Amsterdam Initiative against Malnutrition – brings together a number of businesses with knowledge institutes and NGOs – to try and build synergies across the groups and explore a sustainable financing facility.

**Martin Bloem** Senior Nutrition Advisor WFP & member of the SUN Business Network



Five points need to be underscored to move the debate forward:-

1. The private sector is integral to economic development, which is itself an important driver for improved nutrition;
2. Even when the public sector reaches the poorest, there remains a need to reach upper wealth quintiles through the private sector, where stunting is still seen;
3. We must recognise the opportunity costs for women breastfeeding; the private sector needs to actively promote and support breastfeeding.
4. WFP and GAIN are jointly facilitating the SUN Business Network.
5. WFP is now working with Mastercard to support cash and vouchers transfers.

## Comments from plenary

We have to recognise that the multinationals are seeking to increase their 20% slice of the global food system. This brings the danger that traditional food practices will be undermined, with a push towards increased consumption of processed food. In this respect, GAIN's Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI) can be seen as promoting processed foods. Scepticism was also voiced with respect to companies ever being transparent (as evidenced by GAIN's attempts to influence the Government of Kenya when passing a new law to protect breastfeeding).

Experience has shown that a common goal creates common action. Mechanisms for working together then need to be developed (e.g. co-investment – and is used by GAIN at country level).

The Tanzanian government provided tax exemptions for companies producing food products needed by children – including in the treatment of SAM. Breastfeeding is a priority for the SUN Movement.

This debate needs to be based on facts and evidence. Strong M&E of public-private partnerships is crucial.

The **moderator** concluded with the following points:

- Not about if but how business is engaged;
- This is achievable with common goals and a shared vision – of available, affordable nutritious food for all;
- We have to work through the lens of value chain – with and beyond the food and beverage sector;
- Most of the food and beverage sector are small businesses – we need effective engagement mechanisms;
- We need greater degrees of transparency and trust – agreeing on common principles; establishing tighter M&E; and clarifying accountabilities;
- This will require a combination of government regulation and voluntary engagement – these new models are merging and evolving, so we don't yet have all the lessons of how things work.

## WRAP-UP

**Klaus Rudischhauser** Deputy Director-General Policy and Thematic Coordination, EC DG-DEVCO



The meeting was launched in a spirit of positive endeavour. We were challenged to seize the moment of 2013 – a year of unprecedented opportunity for nutrition in the international development world. The EC's Communication on Nutrition captures two key objectives that the EC will work towards: to support countries in reducing the global stunting burden by 7 million, and to reduce the global burden of wasting. These are long-term commitments. Tom Arnold saw the EU's policies on nutrition and

on food security as very significant in recognising that we need to include nutrition as central to any strategy for development.

Commissioner Piebalgs tabled two clear challenges for this meeting:

- i) To move forward with a clear accountability framework – for resources and for results. This implies improving our understanding of the role of nutrition-sensitive actions in bringing about the desired improvements.
- ii) To unite in order to get nutrition in the post-2015 agenda and to speak with one voice.

We heard clearly of the central role the SUN Movement has played in getting us to this point – and here we need to pay specific tribute to Dr David Nabarro who has worked tirelessly to ensure that the movement's

diversity continues to be a key strength. He, his team, the committed individuals and institutions that make up the various SUN Networks need our renewed support to continue and deepen this progress.

In practical terms, we were reminded that in order to make progress in addressing undernutrition, it is critical that there is political commitment and the necessary policies in high-burden countries. Once these are in place, our role as international agents is to support the fulfilment of country plans. We see that country plans are addressing both acute and chronic undernutrition. Marie-Pierre called on us to consider a fundamental shift in our thinking: to understand acute malnutrition as a development concern, not just a problem associated with crises.

Juan-Pablo shared the inspiring experience of Peru that has made impressive progress in nutrition. And he identified three key lessons about how that was possible: firstly, securing high-level political commitment; secondly, adopting people-orientated policies; and thirdly, instigating a performance-based budgeting approach. Peru paid special attention to equity in its nutrition support, seeking to target those that are often excluded or left out from services/programmes.

Yoka Brandt from UNICEF spoke of the need to “Break the devastating cycle of malnutrition and poverty” and to make sure that no child is left behind.

### **SESSION 1 – NUTRITION IN THE POST-2015 AGENDA**

Lawrence Haddad pointed to three priorities we should unite around in determining the post 2015 framework:

1. Bracket hunger and nutrition together as equal – but different – partners;
2. Push for nutrition indicators to be included horizontally across different goal buckets (poverty, health etc.); and
3. Fight to have 5 or 6 nutrition indicators (and not just the 1 out of 49 we have at the moment).

Such global goals then need to be made relevant to individual countries so that they become drivers for action. We heard how important it is that the goals are inspirational, yet can be tracked by strong indicators. Stunting is well-placed to be included.

### **SESSION 2: TRACKING NUTRITION RESOURCES**

Jean-Pierre Halkin outlined work by the SUN Donor Network, to develop a shared approach in tracking investments in nutrition and to report coherently to the UN General Assembly. However, effective scale-up of nutrition is not just about resources/funding; it's also about the kind of funding (humanitarian or development) and the way the funding is channelled (i.e. to government or not). Two big challenges now need to be resolved:

- The cross-cutting dimension of nutrition which covers numerous sectors (and thus DAC codes)
- Deciding what constitutes ‘nutrition sensitive’.

### **SESSION 3: NUTRITION AND AGRICULTURE**

Brian Thomson reminded us that agriculture can improve nutrition security, through a number of avenues. What we critically need is step-by-step guidance on what this entails. It's our responsibility to share this know-how with the agriculture community so that it can happen more, and more consistently, whether through smallholder farming; crop diversification; the livestock sector; bio-fortification; or Investments in value chain and productivity – taking a few examples.

### **SESSION 4: NUTRITION FINANCING**

This session provided updates on several strands of work.

1. The World Bank's costings of national plans. This is based on the ‘What will it Cost?’ work of 2010, and is now being applied across 6-9 countries to develop country-level costing of national plans.
2. The SUN Secretariat's support to countries developing costing estimates, applying different approaches to do so.
3. The ENN's study on the financing arrangements for CMAM (community-based management of acute malnutrition) which showed that: nearly all financing is humanitarian; it largely bi-passes

governments; it is mostly channelled through 3 UN agencies, who have divided responsibilities for acute malnutrition, resulting in programmes that lack coherence.

4. CIFF/Milken Institute's work on exploring catalytic funding for nutrition - to catalyse commitment, leverage funds and stimulate action.

The financing session ended with a salutary challenge: Although we ask that governments set up budget lines for nutrition, we as donors tend to fund nutrition off-budget (i.e. circumventing government).

## **SESSION 5: MONITORING RESULTS IN NUTRITION**

Yves Martin-Prével described work by the EC, SUN and WHO on developing a results-monitoring system that could be applied first across countries, and then eventually, aggregated to the global level. It is based on the 'Evaluation Platform Approach', which shifts us away from 'evidence-based' estimates to 'plausible models' of effectiveness. The details are still to be worked out, but it would seem that there is already keen interest in developing it further. This will need strong academic input to make sure that the methodologies and analytical frameworks developed are robust; and strong UN involvement in their key role in support of governments. A technical working group could usefully be established to take it forward.

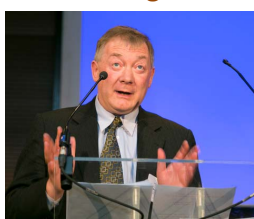
## **SESSION 6: INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN NUTRITION SECURITY**

Miguel Pestana framed the session around the question of "why you need us". He also recognised two underlying tensions as to why answering that question has been difficult: Firstly, there is a reaction to the idea of a profit motive driving development; and secondly there is also a perception that companies are contributing to a rise in non-communicable diseases. Jay Naidoo pointed to the need to identify the roles we can all play in helping overcome these challenges, working under frameworks that are ethical and rights-based.

The discussions over the one-and-a-half days have been stimulating, progressive and fruitful. We will make sure the Commissioner takes up the many good ideas in his roles within the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Agenda and as a member of the SUN Lead Group. The challenge is huge. We really hope that the SUN Movement stays active and diverse so that we can maximise our chances of success.

## **CLOSING SPEECHES**

**Brendan Rogers** Director General, Irish Aid, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland



Together, we are making a real difference to the lives of millions of people whose existence has been blighted by under nutrition and stunting. In June it will be 1000 days since we launched the SUN Movement. Through our collective effort over the 1000 days since SUN was launched, we have developed costing country plans, we have the vital evidence for what works, we know how to scale up a wide range of interventions.

2013 is a key year for nutrition. Through a series of important events and meetings, we are constructing an absolutely compelling case for more effective investment in this vital area. So I believe that we are approaching a tipping point where within another 1000 days we could make a great leap forward in reducing malnutrition and its almost inevitable corollary of stunting. Ireland's presidency of the EU is helping to put in place measures to do just that: shaping an EU position for the UN Special Event in September regarding the post-2015 framework; linking relief and development activities across the EU; and bringing the hunger, nutrition and climate-change agendas together, by co-convening an international conference in Dublin in April, together with the Mary Robinson Foundation-Climate Justice. We hope to encourage and inspire innovative thinking and solutions to inform an enhanced approach to addressing hunger, nutrition and climate change. We hope that this knowledge can be utilised in shaping the post 2015 framework.



Ireland has also been working closely with the Commission and others on the development of an EU Food and Nutrition Security Implementation Plan. This will set out proposals for how the EU and its Member States will deliver on, and be held accountable for, agreed EU policy priority commitments in the area of food and nutrition security, and translate them into action over the period from 2014 to 2020.

**Hussein Ali Mwinyi** Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania



Nutrition is a key component for reaching nearly all MDGS. Since they are coming to an end, it is a good opportunity to strengthen nutrition's position in the current goals or to come up with a new goal that recognizes the fundamental role of nutrition in a range of development goals.

As recall from the discussions during the meeting, there is consensus that combating stunting in children should be the highest priority. While many countries have registered successes on combating stunting, it worth to sustain and build momentum on these successes as well as setting a more ambitious goal, notably zero stunting, in the post 2015 goals. If the world can reach this ambitious goal, this will be the best indicator the world's children are getting the right start in life.

While, progress indicators are very well defined in the SUN Movement's Road Map and most countries have already developed strategic plans according to SUN movement guidelines, yet countries are encouraged to establish their own targets for nutrition goals.

A look at the current global health and nutrition situation suggests that agriculture can make a great contribution to health and nutrition. This approach starts by looking at every component of the food supply chain from the field to the table, including production, postharvest processing, marketing and trade and determining where value for nutrition can be integrated.

One innovation for leveraging agriculture to improve nutrition is biofortification or the breeding of new varieties of food crops with improved nutritional content. Making policies that leverage agriculture for nutrition and health poses particular challenges. Malnutrition and poor health are the result of many factors and require action in whole range of sectors.

**Kristalina Georgieva** European Commissioner for International Cooperation,  
Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response



It is not by chance that Commissioner Piebalgs opened this event and that I am closing it – it shows the sense of urgency and commitment that we have mustered from our teams and partners on a topic that is not just morally right, but that will determine whether or not we are able to support children to grow to their full potential.

ECHO has taken very seriously its responsibilities in this job, even though it is a 'minority shareholder' in terms of the Commission's work on nutrition. In the period from 2008 to 2012, ECHO doubled its humanitarian funding investments in nutrition. In 2012, this amounted to €145million.

Although I was cautioned not to say this, I believe it to be true: We need to make hunger and malnutrition extinct - history.

The reality has been that it is easier to raise money to treat SAM than to prevent it. The new EU policy on nutrition is a genuine commitment of EC to redress this balance – and it is a commitment for the long-run.