



Bangladesh

The information presented in this brief is mainly based on the country's submissions to the 2019 UNN reporting exercise, covering the May 2018–April 2019 period.

- **JOINED THE SUN MOVEMENT IN SEPTEMBER 2010**
- **UNN FUNCTIONALITY INDEX+ SCORE (2019): 9/10**
- **HIGHLY FUNCTIONAL (HIGH)**

UNN Reporting Exercise Completed	Chair(s) Nominated	Focal Points from 3+ UN Agencies	UNN Strategy/Agenda in Place	UNN Workplan Developed
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
UNN's Collective Agenda tabled at UNCT	UNN Engagement in MSP	Develop/Update Nutrition Content of Joint UN Frameworks	Technical Support to SUN Focal Point or other Government Authorities	Nutrition Joint Programmes or Programming
✓	✓	✓	✓	X

Overview of the UN Network in Bangladesh

The UN Network (UNN) in Bangladesh is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) also participate in the Network's activities on an *ad hoc* basis. The Network utilizes a rotational chairing system that spans across all participating agencies, and is currently chaired by FAO. The country has benefitted from analytical support provided by the UNN Secretariat, utilizing its Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping tool in 2010–11, Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview in 2014, Policy and Plan Overview in 2014, the UN Nutrition Inventory tool in 2017 as well as UNN-REACH facilitation support provided from 2010–2016.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the 2018–19 reporting period, the UNN collaborated with all the main networks of the SUN Movement. The Network supported the establishment of the SUN Business Network (SBN) in Bangladesh through WFP and is currently contributing to the development of its strategy. The Network also worked closely with the Civil Society Network (CSN) to operationalize the Second National Nutrition Plan of Action (NPAN2) and has actively contributed to the revitalization of the country's Donor Network.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The UNN plays an integral role in the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), facilitated by the SUN Government Focal Point, and actively engages with multiple sectors to advance food security and nutrition policy and programming processes. As part of its engagement, the UNN has conducted trainings for government officials in order to strengthen multi-sectoral capacities for nutrition and has particularly supported efforts to strengthen the National Nutrition Council to enhance multi-sectoral coordination.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Not specified

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- In 2018–19, the UNN in Bangladesh contributed actively to strengthening national nutrition policies, plans and strategies. It also undertook efforts to strengthen the multi-sectoral coordination capacity of the National Nutrition Council and ensure the approval of a national school meal policy and increased advocacy for nutrition.
- In spite of these efforts, the Network faced diverse challenges in advancing the national nutrition agenda, most of which stemmed from the lack of adequate human and financial resources, limited government capacity on nutrition programme implementation and lack of coordination among sectors.
- To mitigate these challenges, the country UNN is encouraged to explore opportunities to engage United Nations agencies beyond those traditionally involved in the nutrition arena. This will help raise awareness about the multi-sectoral nature of nutrition and lead to an increase in the available (human/financial) resources for nutrition. It may also consider undertaking the Nutrition Capacity Assessment to target further capacity strengthening measures. In addition, the Network could benefit from engaging the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the national nutrition agenda to improve the coordination of nutrition actors across sectors and optimize resources.

With contributions to the UN Network Secretariat from:



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