Overview of the UN Network in Burundi

The UN Network (UNN) in Burundi is chaired by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and also comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the World Food Programme (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN).

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, UNN supported efforts to revitalize the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) and undertook several activities jointly with the SUN Business Network (SBN). The Network also reported undertaking nutrition-related activities with the academic network.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The UNN supported efforts to develop the Multi-sectoral Strategic Plan for Food Security and Nutrition (2019–2023), employing a consultative process.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

In 2018–19, the UNN undertook a joint project on Rural Community Strengthening for Food and Nutrition Security (TUBEHONEZA) to accelerate the achievement of SDG 2. It also supported efforts to formulate joint nutrition programming, such as a nutrition-sensitive project implemented in the Ngozi province as well as an EU-funded nutrition project.

**MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD**

- The UNN in Burundi attained various results during the reporting period in advancing the country’s nutrition agenda. Some of them include the implementation of the UN Nutrition Inventory, which contributed to the development of a common nutrition agenda for United Nations agencies and the expansion of UNN membership to UNFPA, UNHCR and UN WOMEN.

- The Network also supported the development of a Strategic Nutrition Plan for the Health Sector and a multi-sectoral nutrition project alongside the Ministry of Public Health and the Fight against AIDS.

- In spite of these achievements, the Network faced several challenges, many of which stemmed from inadequate human and financial resources as well as inadequate coordination for multi-sectoral programming.

- To mitigate these challenges, the UNN is encouraged to more regularly table nutrition at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings. This would help to foster greater buy-in from agencies beyond those traditionally engaged in nutrition and increase awareness of the multi-sectoral nature of nutrition. The Network could also benefit from engaging the United Nations Resident Coordinator in the national nutrition agenda, while further broadening its membership base to all the agencies mentioned in the common agenda. These efforts will facilitate improved coordination for nutrition and make for integrated, multi-dimensional nutrition interventions at large scale.

With contributions to the UN Network Secretariat from:

To learn more about how the UN Network is supporting country-level action visit https://www.unnetworkforsun.org/ or write to unnetworkforsun@wfp.org

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