



Central African Republic

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 FEBRUARY 2017**
- **UNN FUNCTIONALITY INDEX+ SCORE (2019): 6/10**
- **MODERATELY FUNCTIONAL (MEDIUM)**

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
✗	✓	✗	✓	✗

Overview of the UN Network in Central African Republic

The UN Network (UNN) in the Central African Republic (CAR) takes the form of a technical nutrition working group and does not have a formal chair. The group is comprised of four United Nations agencies, namely: 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). During the 2018–19 reporting period, the collective nutrition agenda was never tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, which may have hindered joint UN action in this area.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

Some nutrition-related activities were undertaken with the country's academia and parliamentary networks although further details were not provided.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

CAR's technical nutrition working group participated actively in the meetings of the National Multi-Sectoral Technical Committee and provided technical assistance, where required. This included support to the SUN Government Focal Point with regard to the development of the 2019 Nutrition Roadmap, the Strategic Nutrition Plan and the national nutrition policy.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

During the reporting period, the group undertook several projects jointly (e.g. 2019 national SMART survey), but it did not carry out UN joint programming *per se* in the area of nutrition.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- The working group achieved some notable successes during the reporting period, especially in the development of national governance frameworks on nutrition, such as strategies, roadmaps and plans. For instance, the group supported efforts to develop the National Nutrition and Food Security Policy and the workplan of the National Plan for Early Recovery and Peacebuilding.
- Nevertheless, the group faced challenges in advancing the national nutrition agenda due to inadequate nutrition capacity among partners and the prioritization of emergencies in programme delivery. These challenges underline the need for better multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination for nutrition, a problem which can be mitigated by the presence of a broad-based and inclusive UNN that draws membership from agencies beyond those with a nutrition mandate. Such engagement enhances awareness on the multi-dimensional nature of nutrition and positions it as a pillar that can be leveraged for efficient interventions and positive outcomes in both development and humanitarian contexts.
- Both the appointment of a chair and the engagement of the United Nations Resident Coordinator could help the group regularly table nutrition at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in order to foster increased buy-in among other United Nations agencies and further elevate nutrition on the national development agenda. These measures would further serve to improve coordination and make for better integrated nutrition interventions with increased coverage in the country.

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