



# Republic of Costa Rica

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 MARCH 2014**
- **UNN FUNCTIONALITY INDEX+ SCORE (2019): 7/10**
- **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 Costa Rica

The UN Network (UNN) in Costa Rica is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO). In addition, the Office of the Resident Coordinator (RCO) actively participates in the Network's activities, helping to cultivate a climate for inter-agency collaboration. The collective nutrition agenda was, nevertheless, rarely discussed at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings. Costa Rica is preparing for a Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping with support from the UNN Secretariat, which will take place in 2020 and may help to engage other United Nations agencies.

## Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, the UNN engaged with civil society organisations (CSOs) to expand and strengthen the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN). The UNN plans to further identify and engage other CSOs that play a key role in food security and nutrition, leveraging the results of the mapping. Efforts are also underway to outline areas of possible collaboration between UNN and other SUN networks. In the meantime, Costa Rica's UNN has continued to work with other groups, such as the Parliamentary Front against Hunger and Malnutrition and similar groups within the legislative assembly to bolster political support.

## Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The agencies involved in the UNN worked together to consolidate and strengthen the country's SUN Movement Platform, alongside partners such as the Centre for Education and Nutrition and Children's Centre for Comprehensive Care (CEN-CINAI) and the Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS). In 2018–19, the country UNN provided technical assistance to the SUN Government Focal Point in her efforts to secure high-level commitment from the Government for tackling child and adolescent overweight and obesity.

## UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Various joint efforts were pursued by the constituent members of the UNN in Costa Rica although not joint programming on nutrition.

## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- The country UNN achievements within the reporting year include: (1) positioning nutrition at the highest political level; (2) evidence generation to strengthen national nutrition surveillance; and (3) the articulation of a strategic plan for nutrition actions across United Nations agencies and other partners. The UNN also worked jointly to contribute to the development of the National Development and Public Investment Plan (2019–2022), ensuring that nutrition was well-reflected.
- Priorities of the UNN for the next reporting period are: (1) mobilizing joint resources for nutrition; and (2) strengthening inter-agency coordination to leverage synergies.

With contributions to the UN Network Secretariat from:



Global Affairs  
Canada

Affaires mondiales  
Canada



To learn more about how the **UN Network** is supporting country-level action visit <https://www.unnetworkforsun.org/> or write to [unnetworkforsun@wfp.org](mailto:unnetworkforsun@wfp.org)

**UN Network Secretariat:** Via Cesare Giulio Viola, 68/70 - 00148 Rome, Italy