El Salvador

The UN Network (UNN) in El Salvador is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP), and is co-chaired by FAO and WFP. According to the findings from the 2019 UNN reporting exercise, nutrition was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks
In 2018–19, the country UNN engaged with the Academia and Parliamentarian Networks, sensitizing parliamentarians on nutrition-sensitive food systems. The UNN also supported the establishment of the SUN Business Network (SBN) in El Salvador.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms
At national level, the United Nations agencies engaged with the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) and contributed to the process of updating the National Policy on Food and Nutrition Security and its corresponding Strategic Plan. This involved supporting the SUN Government Focal Point and holding national and local consultations, where multiple actors participated. In addition, El Salvador’s UNN provided technical support to the Inter-Sectoral Technical Committee for Breastfeeding as part of efforts to protect and promote optimal breastfeeding practices for good nutrition.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition
Not specified

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD
• Among its accomplishments, the UNN in El Salvador: (1) implemented the emergency assessment and response to the 2018 drought in a timely and coordinated manner; (2) supported the Government in generating evidence in food security and breastfeeding, thereby strengthening data-based decision-making processes; and (3) carried out various advocacy activities with the private sector to establish the SBN and invite it to join the MSP. Furthermore, the UNN supported the SUN Government Focal Point on other nutrition-sensitive plans and standards. The country UNN also encouraged nutrition to be placed on the national and territorial political agendas as an essential element for development in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
• El Salvador’s UNN cited strengthening collaboration with other SUN networks as a priority for 2020.

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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.