



Gabon

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 DECEMBER 2016**
- **UNN FUNCTIONALITY INDEX+ SCORE (2019): 10/10**
- **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
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Overview of the UN Network in Gabon

The UN Network (UNN) in Gabon is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and takes the form of a technical nutrition working group. Chaired by FAO, the Office of the Resident Coordinator is also engaged in the network, helping to strengthen inter-agency dialogue and collaboration. According to the findings from the 2019 UNN reporting exercise, the collective nutrition agenda was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in 2018–19.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting cycle, the UNN collaborated with all SUN networks. Some examples of collaboration include: (1) support to the SUN Business Network (SBN) through the SEQUA project on strengthening food security to improve livelihoods in Gabon; (2) support to the SUN Donor Network (SDN), which fostered the implementation of a project for regulating the bushmeat sector; (3) the establishment of the Parliamentarian Alliance, with UNN's support, to increase the engagement of parliamentary deputies and senators in nutrition as well as the organization of a related sensitization workshop; and (4) support to the Civil Society Network (CSN), which is strongly involved in food safety issues, through its participation in the Codex Committee.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

A multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) for nutrition exists and is active in Gabon. UNN is member of the platform and coordinates the respective nutrition actions of the United Nations agencies at the national level through it. These efforts are part of a greater project on sustainable development that promotes good practices. In addition, UNN has contributed to: (1) the establishment of a national coordination mechanism within the MSP; (2) the elaboration and implementation of the integrated Reproductive, Mother, Infant, Adolescent Health and Nutrition Plan, 2019–2023; and (3) the development of national food-based dietary guidelines (ongoing in 2018–19). Both the integrated plan and the dietary guidelines were discussed within the MSP forum, capitalizing on the expertise of its members.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Gabon's UNN reported various examples of UN joint programming for the reporting cycle. These include a nutrition-sensitive programme on education and the promotion of good practices for sustainable development as well as an FAO/UNESCO initiative which shares best practices on school gardens for improved school and family nutrition. The country UNN also developed a nutrition-sensitive joint programme, which will involve FAO, WHO, UNICEF and UNESCO.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- In addition to the above achievements the UNN in Gabon reported fruitful collaboration between the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the Coordinator of the FAO Office for Central Africa, the Nutrition Champion in Parliament, the SUN Government Focal Point and the President of the National Assembly.
- Resource mobilization for nutrition was challenging, as Gabon is a middle-income country for which UN nutrition budgets are low. Other challenges were related to inter-agency dynamics, such as unequal involvement and leadership of the United Nations agencies in joint nutrition initiatives.
- Among the priorities for 2020, Gabon plans to conduct a Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping exercise, focused on the triple burden of malnutrition and supported by the UNN Secretariat.

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