Overview of the UN Network in Madagascar

The UN Network (UNN) in Madagascar is composed of 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). The Network has adopted a co-chairing arrangement, whereby UNICEF serves as the chair and WFP co-chairs. Other United Nations agencies are informally engaged through United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, where the collective nutrition agenda was always tabled in 2018–19. In addition, the Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping is ongoing, using the UNN tool with support from the UNN Secretariat, to guide future decision-making.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the 2018–19 reporting period, the UNN collaborated with all of the SUN networks in the country, including the Academia and the SUN Business Networks (SBN). For example, UNN supported efforts to start-up the SBN, such as the development of the business network strategy and its operationalization. In addition, joint advocacy was pursued with the SUN Government Focal Point, aiming to maintain nutrition as a national priority in the new government’s agenda.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The country UNN has taken considerable measures to enhance the functionality of Madagascar’s multi-stakeholder platform (MSP), starting with the provision of practical support to the SUN Government Focal Point. Not only did this help bolster her participation in the MSP meetings, it also helped to progressively operationalize the platform, including the engagement of new members (e.g. SBN).

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

In 2018–19, the United Nations agencies participated in various joint programmes, such as: (1) the management of acute malnutrition; (2) the Miaro project on maternal health and nutrition which also integrated livelihoods support; and (3) the Gari project on the promotion of fortified cassava flour and capacity strengthening to support its local production.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- The UNN in Madagascar achieved several milestones in 2018–19, including: (1) the preparation of key elements of the National Nutrition Action Plan (e.g. its workplan, monitoring and evaluation plan and costing); (2) advocacy targeting the government to ensure that nutrition is prioritized; and (3) support to SUN networks, especially the SBN.
- One of the main priorities of Madagascar’s UNN is the finalization of the Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping, cognisant that it is a critical input for both determining and tracking progress along the path to scale-up.

1. Further information highlighted in Box 14 of the 2019 UN Network Annual Report.