



Mauritania

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 MAY 2011**
- **UNN FUNCTIONALITY INDEX+ SCORE (2019): 9/10**
- **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 Mauritania

The following United Nations agencies are participating in Mauritania's UN Network (UNN): the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), who chairs the platform; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the World Food Programme (WFP); and the World Health Organization (WHO). In 2018–19, the country UNN reported that the collective nutrition agenda was rarely tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, a strategic forum that could be leveraged to mainstream nutrition across sectors.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the 2018–19 reporting cycle, Mauritania's UNN effectively collaborated with the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN), and to some extent, with the Academia and Parliamentarian Networks. For example, UNN contributed to advocacy efforts geared towards female parliamentarians with a view to increasing budgetary allocations for nutrition. It also supported the development of a nutrition advocacy action plan in collaboration with CSN.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

At the national level, UNICEF leads the Nutrition Group, working closely with the Ministry of Health, while FAO and WFP support the Food Security Commission through the Food Security Sector Group. Financial support was provided by UNICEF for regional sectoral meetings on emergency nutrition through the Regional Directorates of Health and Social Action. Furthermore, UNHCR supports the health, nutrition and food security working group, hosting the Malian refugee camp in Bassiknou. The UNN also assisted the SUN Government Focal Point in undertaking the Joint Assessment to measure progress on the strategic objectives of the SUN Movement. In addition, UNN financed an exchange visit between Mauritania and Senegal through which the SUN Government Focal Point learned about Senegal's multi-sectoral nutrition coordination architecture and processes.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Mauritania's UNN reported undertaking a UN joint programme on the implementation of the nutrition emergency response plan via the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- During the reporting period, the UNN's main achievements in Mauritania include: (1) a budget analysis for nutrition which informed advocacy efforts; (2) the development of regulatory legislation, pertaining to the marketing of breastmilk substitutes to safeguard optimal infant and young child feeding (YCF) practices; and (3) regional consultations to support the implementation of nutrition-specific interventions through the health system.
- Limited human resources is one of the main challenges in Mauritania.
- Looking ahead, discussions are underway about activating UNN-REACH support in the Sahel region, which would help build nutrition capacity for nutrition governance. The SUN Government Focal Point and UNN are also exploring prospects for updating the Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping which would involve a multitude of actors from different stakeholder groups, and likewise, enrich multi-sectoral/stakeholder coordination in the country.

With contributions to the UN Network Secretariat from:



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