Overview of the UN Network in Mozambique

The UN Network (UNN) in Mozambique takes the form of a combined UN-Donor Network, that engages six United Nations agencies. These include: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); the World Food Programme (WFP), which co-chairs the platform; and the World Health Organization (WHO). According to the 2019 UNN reporting data, the collective nutrition agenda was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, helping to reinforce nutrition’s multi-sectoral roots and promote collective action.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, Mozambique’s UNN collaborated with the SUN Business Network (SBN) and the Civil Society Network (CSN). For example, the United Nations agencies helped generate data (e.g. Cost of Hunger study with WFP support) that was used in visibility materials, developed by the CSN, to raise awareness about the importance of investing in nutrition. The UN also collaborated with the CSN on social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) as part of efforts to strengthen nutrition interventions carried out at the community level. Furthermore, the combined UN-Donor Network architecture exemplifies full partnership between the two stakeholder constituencies within the context of SUN. This joint support enabled the provision of direct assistance to the country’s high-level nutrition coordination mechanism, the National Council for Nutrition and Food Security (CONSAN), as well as to the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSAN).

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

As outlined above, the combined network provided support for improving nutrition coordination capacity in Mozambique from convening diverse actors to multi-sectoral planning and the monitoring of subsequent action. This also extended to the provincial and district levels, targeting SETSAN’s decentralized secretariats. In addition, the United Nations agencies undertook capacity strengthening for other national, provincial and district directorates through nutrition-sensitive projects. Furthermore, the members of the UN-Donor Network engaged in the wider Nutrition Partners Forum, where the government (including the SUN Government Focal Point), SBN, CSN and other interested partners come together.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Mozambique’s UNN reported joint work on accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The first programme engaged FAO, IFAD and WFP and was primarily oriented towards food-based approaches from nutrition-sensitive agriculture to fortification, promoting recommended food consumption practices and infant and young child feeding (IYCF), while the second engaged UNICEF and WFP and was tailored to the integrated management of acute malnutrition.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- The UNN in Mozambique achieved several milestones in 2018–19, including the formalization of CONSAN, the institutional capacity assessment of SETSAN and the development of the new national Food Security and Nutrition Strategy (ESAN III).
- Coordination of nutrition stakeholders at all levels continues to be a challenge, underscoring the relevance of the UN-supported capacity assessment and capacity strengthening activities mentioned above.
- Looking ahead, the United Nations agencies will support the development of an integrated multi-sectoral nutrition information system, starting with a scoping exercise conducted by WFP.