



# Nepal

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)**

<b>UNN Reporting Exercise Completed</b>	<b>Chair(s) Nominated</b>	<b>Focal Points from 3+ UN Agencies</b>	<b>UNN Strategy/Agenda in Place</b>	<b>UNN Workplan Developed</b>
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>UNN's Collective Agenda tabled at UNCT</b>	<b>UNN Engagement in MSP</b>	<b>Develop/Update Nutrition Content of Joint UN Frameworks</b>	<b>Technical Support to SUN Focal Point or other Government Authorities</b>	<b>Nutrition Joint Programmes or Programming</b>
✓	✓	X	✓	✓

## Overview of the UN Network in Nepal

The UN Network (UNN) in Nepal is comprised 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). Chaired by UNICEF, the Network reported having sometimes tabled the collective nutrition agenda at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in 2018-19. This, in part, has helped to engage the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC), who has advocated for nutrition among high-ranking government officials, underscoring that it is a human rights issue.

## Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, Nepal's UNN collaborated extensively with other SUN networks (Academia, Civil Society and Donor). This collaboration primarily manifested through UNN support to the National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat (NNFSS) and SUN Government Focal Point as part of efforts to accelerate the implementation of the country's Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Plan II (MSNP II), 2018-2022.

## Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

With the launch of the second phase of the MSNP and the Government's determination to scale up activity at sub-national levels, implementation has reached the majority of districts (61 out of 77). UNN support has been pivotal for the establishment, capacity strengthening and operationalization of decentralized coordination mechanisms, which are overseeing the MSNP activities on the ground.

## UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

In 2018-19, there were various examples of joint UN initiatives in Nepal, which encompassed nutrition. These include the implementation of the MSNP as highlighted above, integrated management of moderate acute malnutrition (IMAM) associated with the flood emergency response (UNICEF and WFP) as well as a joint project on the economic empowerment of rural women (RWEE), involving FAO, UN WOMEN and WFP. Among other objectives, the latter aimed to improve food and nutrition security and provided tips on kitchen gardening along with agriculture inputs and support to develop nurseries. This helped vulnerable women to promote commercialized kitchen gardens as a source of income and exercise their decision-making skills. The project also provided nutrition education to encourage dietary diversity and optimal breastfeeding practices.

### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- The main achievements reported by the country UNN in 2018-19 was the integration of nutrition into the 15th National Development Plan (2019-20) and support to the Government for putting in place platforms at sub-national levels to coordinate multi-sectoral nutrition actions, as stipulated by the national nutrition plan.
- Looking ahead, two priorities for Nepal's UNN will be: (1) to strengthen the capacity of newly elected officials and nutrition coordination mechanisms, working at sub-national levels; and (2) to improve related monitoring and evaluation (M&E) practices in order to better track the MSNP's implementation status and guide decision-making.

With contributions to the UN Network Secretariat from:



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