



Nigeria

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 NOVEMBER 2011**
- **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 Nigeria

In Nigeria, the United Nations agencies come together to address nutrition issues through a pre-existing Development Partners Network. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) participate in the group alongside members of the donor community. During the 2018–19 reporting period, UNICEF co-chaired the platform with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID). The collective nutrition agenda was also sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in 2018–19, helping to raise awareness among other agencies and the United Nations Resident Coordinator. In both cases, nutrition was discussed within the context of broader development, providing an opportunity to reinforce its links to other technical areas. The Nigeria example demonstrates that cohesive UN action on nutrition right down to joint programming can be achieved in the absence of a stand-alone UN Network (UNN).

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting cycle, the country 'UNN' collaborated with the other networks, such as the SUN Business Network (SBN) and SUN Civil Society Network (CSN). Its collaboration with SBN is helping small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to understand their role in addressing malnutrition and make subsequent commitments. From the UN side, UNICEF has teamed up with the SBN to support basic nutrition and food safety training. The partnership is also helping to strengthen platforms for regular engagement between public and private sector stakeholders. In addition, the joint network arrangements between the United Nations agencies and donors is further testament to the close collaboration between these two constituencies in Nigeria.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

In 2018–19, the United Nations agencies provided technical and financial support to the National Committee on Food and Nutrition as part of measures to enhance coordination across the nutrition landscape. The United Nations agencies also supported the Inter-Ministerial Agriculture Nutrition Working Group on Nutrition and equipped the SUN Government Focal Point with tools to better manage nutrition coordination mechanisms in the country. They also supported the organization of nutrition *fora*, where multiple stakeholders gathered, and the SUN Focal Point's participation at a leadership course in South Africa. Finally, UN support enabled the government to cascade federal coordination mechanisms to sub-national levels. For instance, food and nutrition committees are now functional in at least 21 out of 36 states, under the leadership of the ministries of Budget and Planning.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

The member agencies in Nigeria partook in a number of joint programming activities across the humanitarian-development continuum, including two joint programmes carried out for the emergency response in the North East. One of these concentrated on nutrition-sensitive agriculture (FAO and WFP), helping to protect nutritional status while building resilience. The second joint programme focused on maternal health and nutrition (UNFPA and WFP) in Jere and Konduga. Joint support was also extended for a multi-sectoral nutrition project, targeting the critical 1,000 days period. WFP provided cash transfers to pregnant and lactating women or other caregivers of children 6–23 months conditional on enrolment in the UNICEF-supported SAM treatment, ante/postnatal care and immunization services.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- Other UNN achievements in Nigeria within the reporting period include the development of nutrition curricula/modules for basic schooling to promote healthy eating habits (FAO and UNICEF). In addition, the UN promoted learning on nutrition-sensitive interventions through the Zero Hunger Review and the National Gender Profile of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods. It also supported the formulation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF) and the development of a costed strategic plan for the National Food and Nutrition Policy. Finally, the United Nations agencies advocated for the allocation of USD 6.7 million of domestic resources to nutrition in 2018.
- Main challenges & priorities: *Not specified*

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