



The Philippines

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 MARCH 2014**
- **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 The Philippines

The UN Network (UNN) in the Philippines is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) who serves as the chair, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The collective nutrition agenda was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings during the 2018-19 reporting period, helping to position nutrition as a multi-sectoral issue. This also was a way of keeping other United Nations agencies abreast related developments.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

In 2018-19, the UNN worked with the National Nutrition Council (NNC) focal point to support the establishment of the SUN Business Network (SBN) and sponsored NNC's participation in the SBN regional workshop in Japan. During the reporting period, the UNN regularly collaborated with the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) as well. The UNN-CSN collaboration encompassed a range of activities, including nutrition advocacy and grassroots actions. With UNICEF support, joint advocacy activities were carried out during Nutrition and Breastfeeding Month and events were organized to sensitize legislators on the economic consequences of undernutrition and the measures being taken under the auspices of the national nutrition plan. Others, such as the Nutrition Research Forum and World Food Day, were supported by the collective UNN in collaboration with the CSN.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The country UNN provided technical assistance to the SUN Government Focal Point, supporting her participation in multi-stakeholder meetings, organized by the SUN Secretariat, to enhance the roll-out of the Philippines Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) at the national and sub-national levels. A series of technical consultations were held as part of the process, helping to define recommendations for better programming. In addition, the UNN was actively engaged in *fora* regarding Nutrition Cluster Information Management, food security and Local Government Unit Mobilization, where various SUN networks discussed recommendations for scaling up nutrition-specific and sensitive interventions in an integrated manner.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

During the reporting period, the United Nations agencies have been engaged in multiple joint programming actions on nutrition, such as: (1) the roll-out of the Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition and sub-national nutrition plans in the Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur provinces; (2) UN programming support to deliver essential health and nutrition services on the ground in response to the Marawi conflict; and (3) capacity strengthening on the management of acute malnutrition.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- Among the main UNN achievements reported in the Philippines are: (1) convening 36 priority provinces and supporting the cascading PPAN activities down to the smallest localities; (2) technical support for the PPAN common results framework; (3) advocacy for nutrition-sensitive social protection safety nets; (4) evidence generation through the Fill the Nutrient Gap analysis, jointly conducted by UNICEF and WFP; (5) a SAM bottleneck analysis; and (6) the development of legislation about the first 1000 days and related regulations (e.g. extended maternity leave) as well as a multi-pronged national feeding programme for undernourished children in the country. The latter integrates supplementary feeding, micronutrient supplementation, school feeding, health examinations, WASH support, promotion of vegetable gardens and social and behaviour change communications, exemplifying a holistic approach to child malnutrition. Finally, the United Nations agencies supported the implementation of the Health and Nutrition of the Mother and Child Act, helping to institutionalize key integrated services for reducing stunting and other forms of malnutrition.
- Challenges & priorities: *Not specified*

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