



South Sudan

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 JUNE 2013**
- **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 South Sudan

A total of five United Nations agencies comprise the UN Network (UNN) in South Sudan. These include: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which chairs the platform; the World Food Programme (WFP); and the World Health Organization (WHO). Furthermore, the collective nutrition agenda was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings during the 2018–19 reporting period, which proved to be essential in increasing buy-in among UN leadership. This, in turn, helped to incentivize collaboration among the member United Nations agencies to work towards shared nutrition goals.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting cycle, the country UNN collaborated with the SUN Civil Society Alliance Network. Together with the Ministry of Health, the two networks jointly organized an advocacy workshop in February 2019, which was instrumental in revitalizing the SUN Movement in South Sudan. It also planted the seeds for increased parliamentary engagement in nutrition. The country UNN, including Heads of Agencies, played an active role in sensitizing parliamentarians, helping them understand that good nutrition not only helps children grow strong but also their communities and countries. Furthermore, UN expertise was availed to illustrate how sectors benefit from making their efforts nutrition-sensitive, which helped parliamentarians appropriate funds for nutrition.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

In 2018–19, the UNN worked closely with the SUN Government Focal Point and the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) to improve nutrition coordination. Several stakeholder meetings were held regarding the development of a roadmap for the Multisectoral Nutrition Costed Strategy, which outlined the next steps, budget and timeline. In addition, the UNN was also very active in the South Sudan Nutrition Cluster, helping to align nutrition-related humanitarian assistance with support for development.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

The United Nations agencies participated in multiple joint programmes on nutrition during the reporting period, including: (1) the collocation of SAM and MAM¹ treatment (UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and WHO), enabling seamless referral and a continuum of care; (2) a prevention programme that focused on maternal, infant and young child nutrition (UNICEF and WFP); (3) the promotion of kitchen gardens to improve the dietary diversity of complementary feeding among children who are weaning (FAO and UNICEF); and (4) joint programming on vitamin A supplementation and deworming (UNICEF and WHO).

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- Further to the achievements highlighted above, the UNN in South Sudan: (1) improved UNN reporting and data quality; (2) carried out joint food security and nutrition assessments; (3) provided catalytic facilitation support to initiate the development of the multi-sectoral nutrition strategic plan under the leadership of the Ministry of Health; and (4) improved coverage of nutrition treatment facilities and the collocation of SAM and MAM treatment services.

1. SAM refers to severe acute malnutrition while MAM stands for moderate acute malnutrition.

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