



Sri Lanka

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 OCTOBER 2012**
- **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 Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, United Nations agencies have united with members of the donor community, culminating in the establishment of the SUN Development Partners Network in 2018. UN membership includes: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which co-chairs the platform with the World Bank (WB); the World Food Programme (WFP); and the World Health Organization (WHO). Furthermore, the UN members sometimes highlighted collective nutrition issues at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, including at a strategic retreat that was held within the 2018–19 reporting period. "According to the UNCT members, [the] nutrition agenda has been thoroughly discussed" states Safina Abdulloeva from UNICEF, helping it gain further momentum.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, Sri Lanka's UNN collaborated with other SUN networks, including the SUN Business Network (SBN) and the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN). In 2018, all member United Nations agencies participated in the launch of the SBN as well as its subsequent quarterly meetings and provided inputs for SBN newsletters. The United Nations agencies have also worked with the CSN on different initiatives, such as the 2018 World Food Day Celebration (FAO and WFP). Furthermore, UN-CSN collaboration will be expanded to support community nutrition in selected districts thanks to an agreement signed by WFP and CSN in 2019.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The United Nations agencies helped the Nutrition Secretariat roll out a highly consultative process to develop the Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN) 2018–2025, coordinating inputs across seventeen ministries. The Secretariat serves as the national-level coordination authority for nutrition and is located under the President's Office. Additionally, support was provided to the SUN Government Focal Point in completing the SUN Joint Annual Assessment, which involved different government offices as well as the SUN stakeholder networks.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

In 2018–19, the United Nations agencies carried out joint programming on nutrition, including the Community Health Advanced through Nutrition and Gender Equality (CHANGE) project, supported by UNFPA and WFP. Brenda Barton, WFP Representative, speaks about the project explaining that, "fostering social and economic empowerment among Sri Lanka's women will help break the vicious intergenerational cycle of malnutrition." Another joint activity involving FAO and WFP centred around South-South cooperation for food processing and storage. The 2019 UNN reporting exercise also prompted the United Nations colleagues to reflect collectively on UN nutrition support, which set the groundwork for further UN collaboration in this area.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- Among the main UNN achievements in Sri Lanka during the reporting period are: (1) its active involvement in the development and finalization of the new national nutrition plan (approval was still pending in 2019); (2) contributions to the National Food Safety Policy; and (3) the establishment of working group on Outcome 3 in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF), specifically to join efforts to advance the nutrition agenda via the United Nations agencies.
- One of the main priorities in Sri Lanka for the SUN Development Partners Network is to assist the Government in the implementation of the new national nutrition plan, including the development of its M&E plan and district action plans.

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