Overview of the UN Network in Tajikistan

The UN Network (UNN) in Tajikistan 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 collective nutrition agenda was sometimes tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in 2018–19, helping to raise awareness among a wider group of UN leadership.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the 2018–19 reporting cycle, the UNN in Tajikistan collaborated with both the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN) and the SUN Donor Network (SDN). Its engagement with the former started with UNN efforts to advocate for the establishment of the CSN in the country and the subsequent development of its modus operandi. The country UNN was also closely engaged with the SDN within the Donor Coordination Council regarding food security and nutrition issues. This helps foster alignment among the constituent parts of the country’s Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The multi-sectoral coordination council (MSCC) for SUN includes the UNN and has been working on the development and costing of the multi-sectoral national nutrition plan. The member United Nations agencies supported the organization of various such meetings, held at the national level with multiple stakeholders. They also supported the MSCC with the establishment of regional and district-level coordination councils for the country’s school meal programme.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

In 2018–19, the United Nations agencies carried out two joint programmes on nutrition. One programme was dedicated to the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) protocol. Over 647 health staff were trained on the revised IMAM guideline. Improved capacity of health workers and active case finding resulted in a 51 percent increase in admissions of severely acute malnourished children in 2018. Furthermore, over 8,000 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) were enrolled in treatment through the integrated approach. The formulation of sub-national coordination councils was another important milestone, with scope to further improve nutrition-sensitive programming within the context of schools.

The other was a nutrition-sensitive school meals programme through which FAO and WFP collaborated along with the government and other development partners.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- As highlighted above, the United Nations agencies provided technical support to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MoHSPP) to update the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) protocol. Over 647 health staff were trained on the revised IMAM guideline. Improved capacity of health workers and active case finding resulted in a 51 percent increase in admissions of severely acute malnourished children in 2018. Furthermore, over 8,000 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) were enrolled in treatment through the integrated approach. The formulation of sub-national coordination councils was another important milestone, with scope to further improve nutrition-sensitive programming within the context of schools.
- Main challenges & priorities: The UNN continues to work with the government and other stakeholders towards the finalization of the new national nutrition plan, which will shape the next chapter of the country’s SUN Movement.

To learn more about how the UN Network is supporting country-level action visit https://www.unnetworkforsun.org/ or write to unnetworkforsun@wfp.org

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