Overview of the UN Network in Tanzania

A total of five United Nations agencies are part of the UN Network (UNN) platform in Tanzania, attesting their commitment to work more collaboratively to support national efforts that address malnutrition in all its forms. These include: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); the World Food Programme (WFP); and the World Health Organization (WHO). The Network is chaired by UNICEF and is one of the few to have always tabled the collective nutrition agenda at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings in 2018–19. This is yet another indication of the cohesive approach being undertaken in Tanzania.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the reporting period, the UNN collaborated with all the SUN networks (Business, Civil Society, Donor and Parliamentary) on what was a string of complementary activities in many cases. Its work with the Civil Society Network, known as PANITA in Tanzania, supported a nutrition expenditure analysis (UNICEF), which was shared with parliamentarians along with key recommendations. This fed into the Joint Multi-sectoral Nutrition Review in 2018, attended by hundreds working in nutrition from national to district level. Not only did the country UNN support parliamentarian engagement in the review, it also lobbied the Parliamentary Network to secure domestic funding. The UNN, through FAO, also worked with the SUN Government Focal Point and parliamentarians to support the organization of the first Annual Eastern Africa Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, convened in Tanzania, where members of the alliance committed to leveraging their influence in the fight against malnutrition. Both UNICEF and WFP worked with the SUN Business Network (SBN), with the latter serving as the Network’s co-convenor in-country. This contributed to dialogue with private sector actors (e.g., Tanzania Salt Producers Association, salt producers, and investors) and innovation contests. Finally, the country UNN collaborated with the SUN Donor Network (SDN), through the Development Partners Group on nutrition, to develop and launch (April 2019) the Mid-term Review of the National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP).

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The UNN participated in the national High-Level Steering Committee on Nutrition meeting held in July 2018, which discussed key issues, including the Food and Nutrition Policy, nutrition financing, and dedicated human resources. In addition, the UNN is a key member of the national bi-annual multi-sectoral nutrition working group and provides technical support to the NMNAP thematic working groups that meet quarterly. Furthermore, the UNN fostered the operationalization of twenty-six multi-sectoral nutrition steering committees operating within sub-national councils through the President’s Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

The strong inter-agency dynamics in Tanzania also manifested in joint programming on nutrition during the established period. Three United Nations agencies were taking measures to kick-off a joint programme for host communities around the refugee camps in the Kigoma region (UNICEF, WFP, WHO) that integrated nutrition-specific actions with health services. This joint programme would complement an existing nutrition-sensitive agriculture programme supported by six United Nations agencies, two of which are UNN members (FAO and WFP).

**MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD**

- Some of the top UNN achievements in Tanzania include: (1) the implementation of the nutrition compact between the PORALG and twenty-six regions which catalysed a minimal budgetary allocation to nutrition for each child under five years old; (2) the implementation of the 2018 national nutrition survey to guide decision-making; and (3) successive rounds of mapping key nutrition actions to help track the implementation of the national nutrition plan, using a slightly adapted version of the UNN tool.
- Moving forward, continued capacity building of nutrition stakeholders on nutrition data management was one of the identified priorities.

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