Overview of the UN Network in Togo

In Togo, the United Nations agencies come together to discuss nutrition issues and exchange related information through an informal UN-Donor platform. Four United Nations agencies are involved, namely: 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). UNICEF leads the group and put aside partial funding to support the Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping − using the UNN tool − after it was presented to country stakeholders by members of the UNN Secretariat in February 2019. The exercise was embraced as means to infuse energy into the nutrition scene, better understand gaps, identify opportunities for increased synergies and fuel advocacy for attracting investment in nutrition.

According to the findings from the 2019 UNN reporting exercise, the collective nutrition agenda was not tabled at United Nations Country Team (UNCT) meetings, which could be linked to the lack of a formalized network for the UN constituency within Togo’s SUN Movement.

Collaboration with other SUN Networks

During the 2018–19 reporting period, the participating United Nations agencies supported the establishment of the Civil Society Network (CSN). The combined UN-Donor Network arrangement, even if informal, exemplifies the close collaboration on nutrition between United Nations actors and the donor community in Togo.

Engagement in Multi-Stakeholder/Sectoral Platforms

The above-mentioned United Nations agencies actively participated in the national Multi-sectoral Nutrition Platform, which is also comprised of relevant ministries, local non-governmental organizations, universities, donors and the private sector. Members of the multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) were eager to proceed with the mapping, as they see it as a tool to operationalize the newly approved National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Plan. They also recognize that the mapping will provide valuable inputs to develop its corresponding M&E plan. In addition, the ‘UNN’ provided financial support to the SUN Government Focal Point for various in-country activities to strengthen nutrition coordination across sectors and institutions.

UN Joint Programmes/Programming for Nutrition

Not specified

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD

- One of the top UNN achievements in Togo during the reporting period was the elaboration of the 2019 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) operational plan, led by UNICEF and WFP, which was used to determine budgetary allocations to nutrition.

- Looking ahead, the main priorities are to plug the funding shortfall in order to complete the mapping exercise, following an official request from the government. One objective of the mapping is to inform the development of a roadmap for nutrition actors and interventions, planned for the first quarter in 2020.