

## ANNEX B. Menu of UNN analytical tools



### MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION OVERVIEW

The Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview (MNO) compiles and synthesizes available data to identify trends, gaps and key messages on the nutrition situation in a given country. It compares data over time and across different geographic levels, bringing into focus inequities and other areas that warrant increased attention. Building on existing public health thresholds, it utilizes visual aids to depict the severity and magnitude of the nutrition situation, helping stakeholders reach a consensus on the specific nutrition challenges faced in the country and their multifaceted causes. The findings of this exercise can subsequently inform the prioritization and implementation of both prevention and response actions. To date, the MNO has been deployed in 27 countries.

The results are validated through multi-sectoral workshops that bring together government, civil society, donors, private sector and United Nations agencies with a role to play in nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific actions. To optimize the utility of the mapping exercise, it is best conducted just prior to or in conjunction with the review or development of a national nutrition plan and/or annual reviews so that key findings can guide future action. The mapping can even be utilized as part of emergency preparedness and contingency and response planning. In addition, the mapping feeds into the SUN Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) system, providing action-oriented data about multi-sectoral engagement and intervention coverage. To date, the mapping has been completed in 25 countries with others underway.



### NUTRITION STAKEHOLDER AND ACTION MAPPING

The Nutrition Stakeholder and Action Mapping tool collects data from both government and development partners to provide a comprehensive overview of all actors contributing to the nationally defined core nutrition actions. The mapping also illustrates where each action is taking place and the number of beneficiaries being reached, thereby identifying gaps in implementation at both national and sub-national levels. This helps nutrition coordination mechanisms see where actions need to be scaled up and who they can look to for support. Using the District Health Information Software, Version 2 (DHIS2), the tool also helps countries improve coordination by clarifying the linkages across sectors and stakeholders as well as identifying opportunities for increased synergies.



### POLICY AND PLAN OVERVIEW

The Policy and Plan (PPO) enables key actors to visualize the landscape of nutrition-related sectoral and multi-sectoral policies, strategies, plans and legal frameworks in a given country. It is used by countries to assess the extent to which nutrition is reflected in these governance frameworks, providing recommendations on how nutrition can be mainstreamed into those legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans. While the exercise is primarily oriented towards national frameworks, it has also encompassed sub-national development plans, helping both to spur action on the ground and bridge national and sub-national workstreams. It is a practical tool for fostering policy coherence and further sensitizing sectoral actors on their respective roles and responsibilities within the nutrition domain. The PPO has thus far been utilized in 15 countries.



## NUTRITION CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

The Nutrition Capacity Assessment is the latest addition to the UNN toolkit, developed in collaboration with its five founding member agencies. The tool helps countries determine capacity needs for the effective scale-up of nutrition actions, encompassing both functional and technical capacities. It provides a holistic (multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder and multi-dimensional) instrument for assessing capacity at national and sub-national levels, with the objective of strengthening sustainable capacity for nutrition.

It responds to the need for a basic standardized approach, which can be adapted to the country context and requirements of the assessment. It recognizes governments as the primary stakeholders and ensures that ensuing capacity development activities are relevant. Furthermore, the tool provides a framework that helps define and operationalize capacity assessment as part of broader capacity development initiatives, culminating in a nutrition capacity development plan. In some countries, the tenets of these capacity development plans were integrated into the national nutrition plan. To date, the assessment has been undertaken in 7 countries.



## UN NUTRITION INVENTORY

The UN Nutrition Inventory provides a common, comprehensive framework and language for describing current UN nutrition actions. It allows United Nations agencies in the same country to compare the focus, magnitude and location of UN contributions to nutrition. The UN Nutrition Inventory broadly showcases the geographic concentration of those actions across a given country without generating quantitative coverage data. It, furthermore, documents existing UN joint programming and estimates the size of investments in nutrition. In addition, the Inventory explicitly assesses the alignment between UN actions and government priorities.

These findings provide a strong evidence base upon which to develop a UN vision and priorities for nutrition moving forward (i.e. key elements of a country UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda and UNSDCF). It is also a practical way to: (a) contextualize the UN Global Nutrition Agenda (UNGNA v.1.0) to country realities; (b) facilitate the engagement of non-traditional United Nations agencies in the nutrition agenda and thus expand UNN membership; (c) foster increased joint programming; and (d) engage the leadership of United Nations agencies as well as UN Resident Coordinators in nutrition. Together with the subsequent UN Nutrition Strategy/Agenda, the Inventory provides a tool against which UN progress on stated nutrition objectives can be meaningfully reviewed. Thus far, the UN Nutrition Inventory has been conducted in 19 countries, using the tool developed by the UNN Secretariat. Two other countries opted to carry out the exercise through a different approach.