The UN Network for SUN experience in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

**Achieving increased UN coherence on nutrition**
The UN Network for SUN dynamic in the DRC

2012
A UN group for nutrition was created
FAO, WHO, WFP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNDP, UNHCR
Development of an **Inter-agency strategy for joint and multi-sectoral programming to tackle malnutrition** in the most vulnerable regions of the DRC

2013
After the country joined the SUN Movement, the UN Network was created
FAO, OMS, PAM, UNFPA, UNICEF
Road map
Joint work – Joint Programme (03 agencies) since 2015 in South Kivu (Swiss financing)

2016-2017
UN Network for SUN:
FAO, OMS, PAM, UNFPA, UNICEF
Provincial conference on South Kivu and Kwango. Provincial charters
UN Nutrition Inventory exercise
UN Network Strategic Retreat
Nutrition Common Narrative
UN Network for SUN nutrition actions in the DRC (2016-2017)

Policy review
- National Nutrition Policy
- Multisectoral Nutrition Strategic Plan
- Nutrition in the Country Development Plan
- Nutrition / food in the Social Protection Plan

Joint programming
- Lessons learned from the joint programme in nutrition and food security – Phase 1 Pilot – and development of Phase 2 for scale up (Swiss funding)
- Sectors: Nutrition, Health, Agriculture and WASH

Joint analysis
- IPC food security with nutrition components
- HRP – multisectoral objective
- UN Nutrition Inventory
- Nutrition stakeholder and action mapping (ongoing)
UN Network for SUN nutrition actions in the DRC (2016-2017)

- **Decentralized governance**
  - Provincial Nutrition Committees
  - Provincial Nutrition Plans in 3 provinces

- **Advocacy**
  - Common Nutrition Narrative (with the donor group “GIBNUT” and the nutrition cluster)

- **Joint analyses**
  - Analysis of the national budget
  - Mapping of nutrition investments (ongoing)
Functionality of the UN Network for SUN in the DRC (2016-2017) - outputs / key processes

• An Inventory of nutrition actions performed by UN agencies in the DRC was conducted in 2016

• A UN Network Strategic Retreat was held and allowed for the finalization of:
  • A Road Map aligned to the UN Network for SUN Strategy
  • Revised Terms of Reference for a more dynamic functioning of the UN Network

• Development of a Common Narrative for Nutrition (joint advocacy)
UN support in 2016 compared to the prevalence of stunting and the number of stunted children

Stunting Prevalence (DHS 2013)

Number of Stunted Children

Are UN efforts taking place in the best geographic areas?

ABSOLUTE NUMBER OF STUNTED CHILDREN

Highest numbers of UN actions

Number of nutrition actions supported by the UN agencies surveyed

Source: DHS 2013-2014; UNICEF Maps; Inventory tool

N.B. The actions depicted in this map do not include those being undertaken at national level, only those at regional level.
Support from the UN agencies surveyed was well distributed across the country, with at least 2 agencies in all regions, though fewer actions are supported in the central provinces.

Key Questions:
Where more than one agency is present

- How complementary are the nutrition actions? Is there combined value added?
- Is there a critical nutrition action missing in each region/state, that the UN is well-placed to deliver?
- Are there opportunities for improved collaboration on joint planning (targeting & geographic focus), implementation, M&E?
- How can the use of delivery mechanisms (e.g. schools, community health volunteers, agricultural extension) be optimized?
- Alignment of advocacy, communications, other?

N.B. The actions depicted in this map do not include those being undertaken at national level, only those at regional level.

Number of UN actions by region:
- > 40
- 31-40
- 21-30
- ≤ 20

Sources: Inventory tool 2016
In South-Kivu, 9 actions were supported by more than one agency surveyed, which may indicate opportunities for collaboration and coordinated targeting.

Sources: UN Nutrition Inventory (2016) (Exercice Inventaire des actions de nutrition [2016])
Tackling malnutrition among women and children under five in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Common Nutrition Narrative in the DRC - Government and Partners
From outputs to results

**Inventory** of UN nutrition actions
- Informs planning
- Supports the alignment of UN actions with government priorities

**Road map** for the UN Network for SUN
- Coherence of actions and support
- Joint planning

**Common narrative** on nutrition for ALL PARTNERS
- Renewal of commitments
- Advocacy to increase nutrition investments

**Mapping** of nutrition actions and stakeholders (ongoing)

Increase coherence
Increase scale and investments
The process and implication of other actors

• The UN Network is present and participates in the nutrition cluster and the food security cluster

• The UN is present and participates in sectoral planning (health, agriculture, social protection, water...)

• The UN is present and participates in the donor group (health, nutrition, agriculture, water)

• Coordination efforts of nutrition interventions, especially regarding ongoing emergencies in the country (HRP- multi-sectoral objective)

• Collaboration with other SUN networks in place (donors, civil society, private sector, government...
My name is Olga, I am 15 years old and I am the president of the Child Reporters group in Oriental Kasaï. My dream is to become a nutritionist dietician to help others. I want to change the lives of malnourished children by treating them but also working on prevention. We need to raise awareness among communities and parents about consuming local foods with a high nutritious value, and to advocate for nutrition with local authorities.