



Overview of UN-Nutrition

UN-Nutrition regional webinar – Anglophone session



29 November 2023

Who we are today reflects where we came from

2018

The joint Steering Committee expresses interest in merging the *UN System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN)* and the *UN Network for SUN (UNN4SUN)* with a threefold rationale.

- (1) to prominently position the UN in the evolving nutrition landscape
- (2) to ensure fit for purpose
- (3) to reap operational + cost efficiencies in the spirit of the UN reform

2019

Independent review conducted to take stock of strengths, weaknesses and opportunities, leading the way for the impending merger.

2020

UN-Nutrition formally established (29th February) – Operational modalities + structure articulated by the ‘core’ agencies, presented at ECOSOC and a formal announcement communicated to the CEB, other UN colleagues and partners.

2021

UN-Nutrition Secretariat established, hosted by FAO HQ.

2022

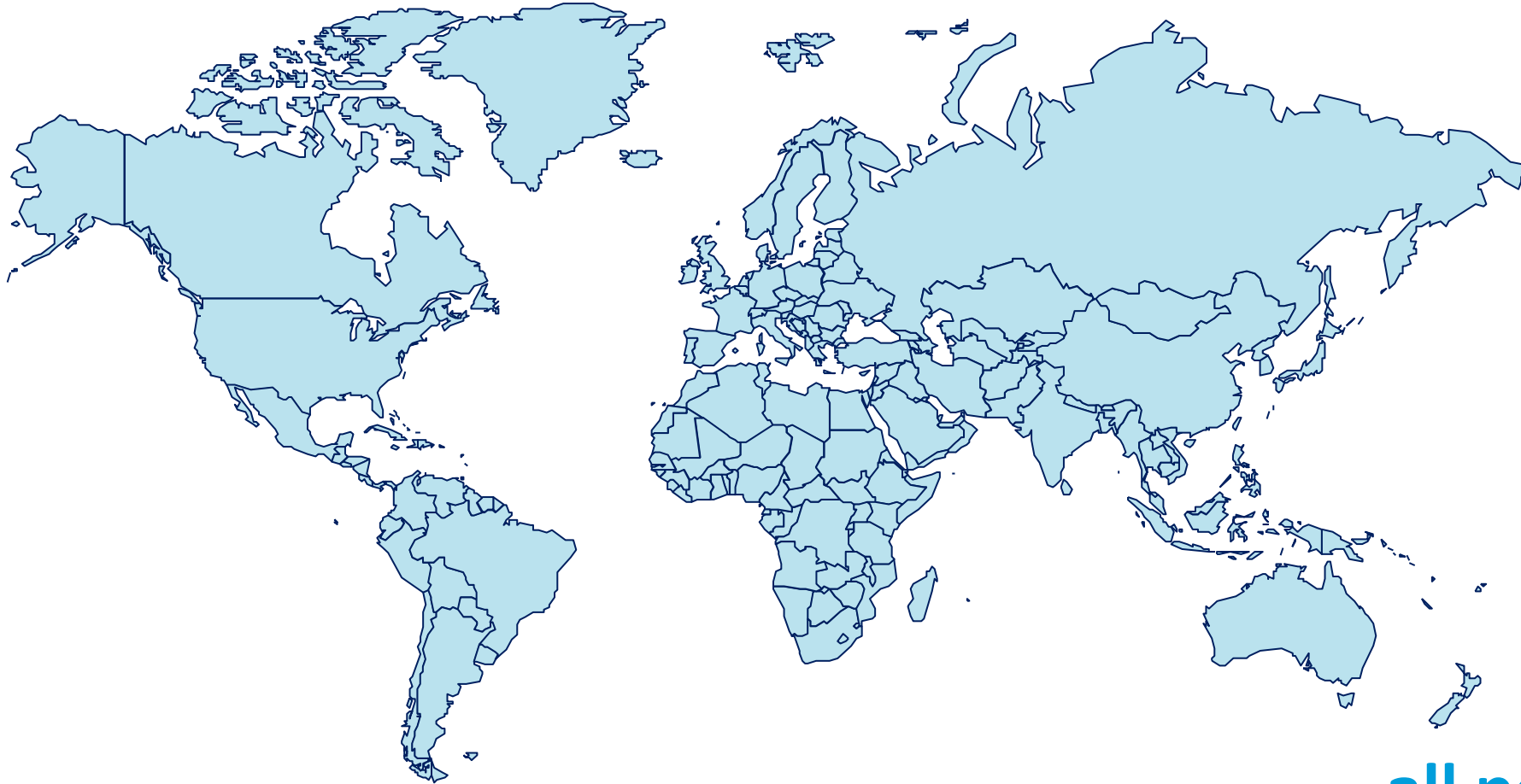
UN-Nutrition strategy finalized and launched, biennium workplan developed, country baseline assessment conducted

2023

UN-Nutrition website and information note developed

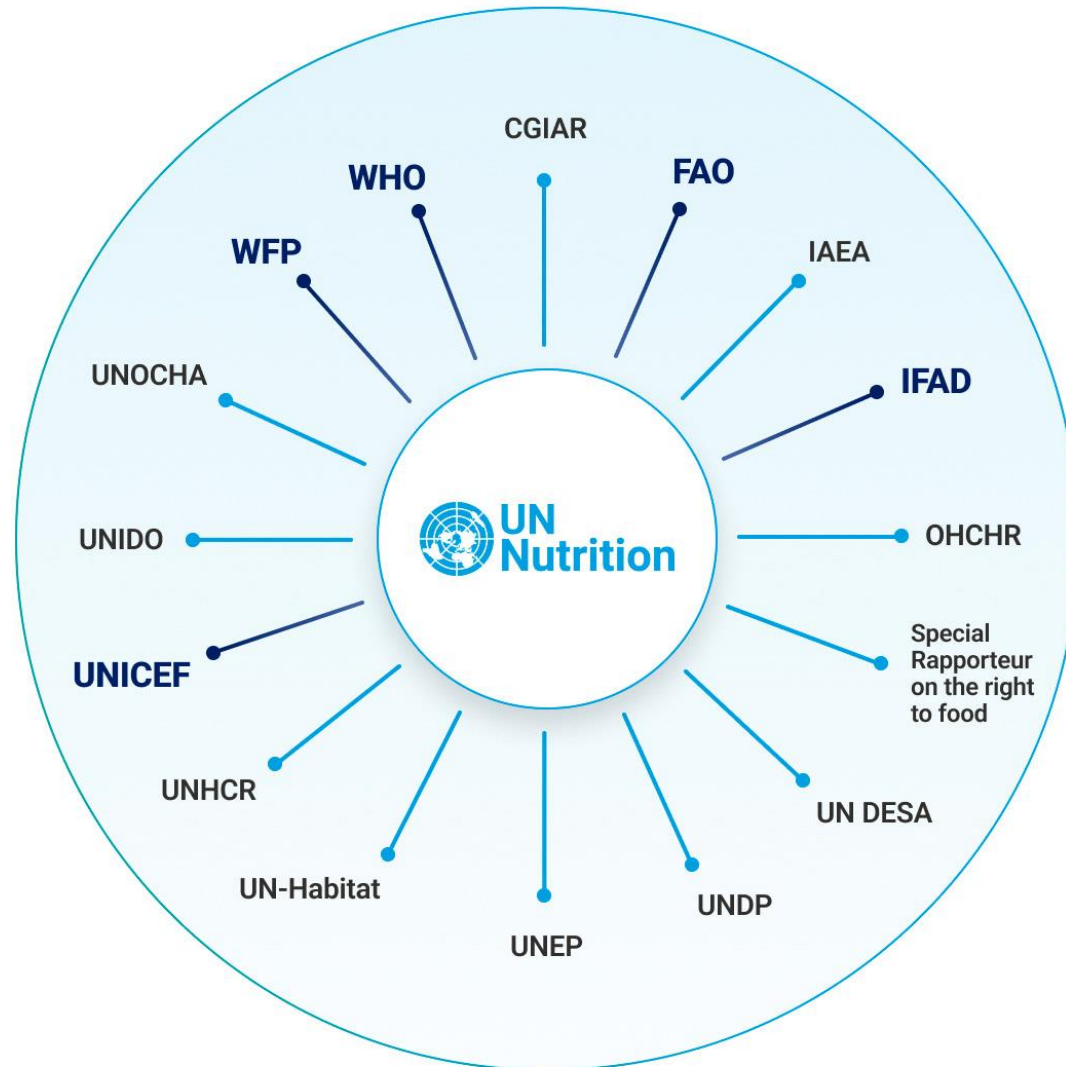
UN-Nutrition is universal in scope

All countries...



... all people

UN-Nutrition draws upon and consolidates the wealth of expertise of its members

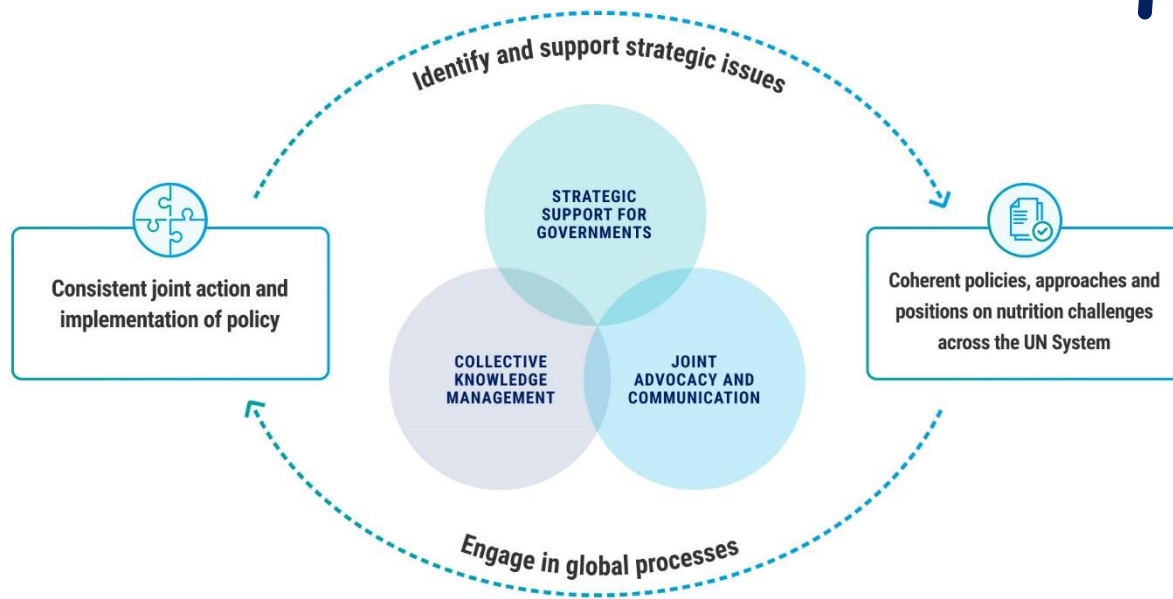


- MEMBERS
- CONSTITUENT MEMBERS

+ other agencies
in some countries

UN-Nutrition Strategy 2022–2030

“Working as one” approach



VISION:
A world without malnutrition



MISSION:
Coordinate and leverage the response of UN agencies to address malnutrition in all its forms, along with its root causes



Launched in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
October 2022

Areas of joint work

ACTING AS ONE

Strategic support to country governments

Facilitate UN agencies' coordination in countries in the context of SDGs, Nutrition Decade, WHA targets and N4G & Food Systems Summit (FSS) follow-up



SPEAKING AS ONE

Joint advocacy and communication

Communication: facilitating the sharing of knowledge across global and country levels in the UN System and beyond

Advocacy: ensuring that nutrition remains high on the political agenda at all levels; serving to secure funding for nutrition and the coherent use of (limited) resources



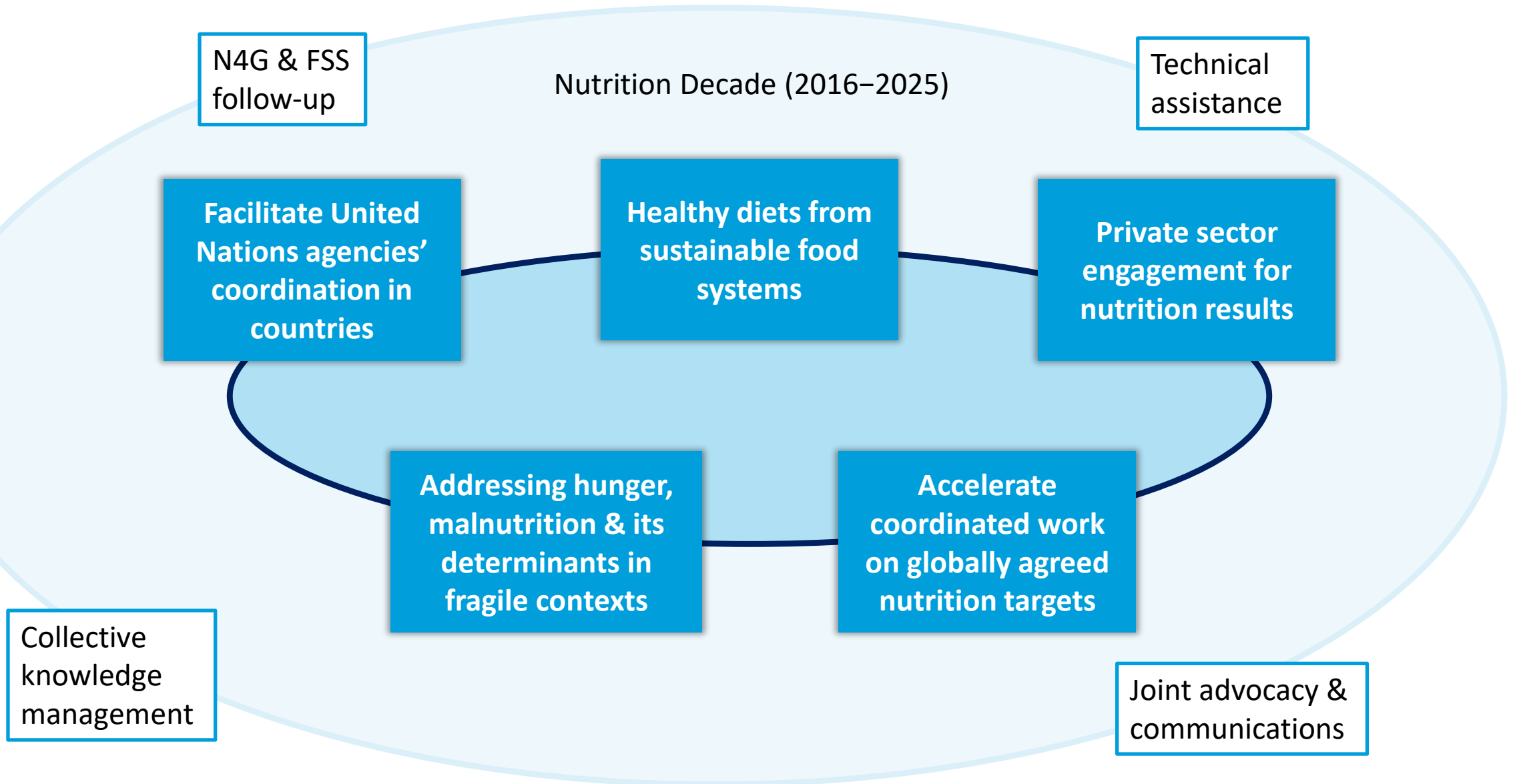
LEARNING AS ONE

Collective knowledge management and brokering

Knowledge management to ensure that UN-Nutrition meets its interconnected goals – leveraging members' products & developing joint products at all levels: guidance, e-learning, databases, analytical tools, discussion papers



Priority areas for 2022–2023 biennium



Underpinning all priorities: Country support

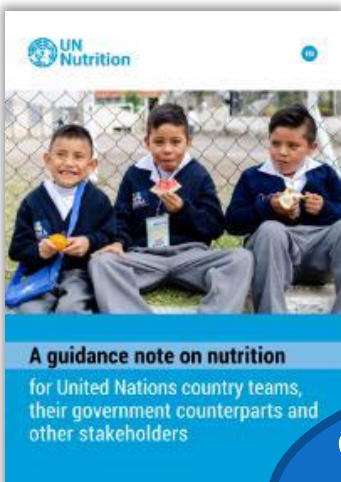
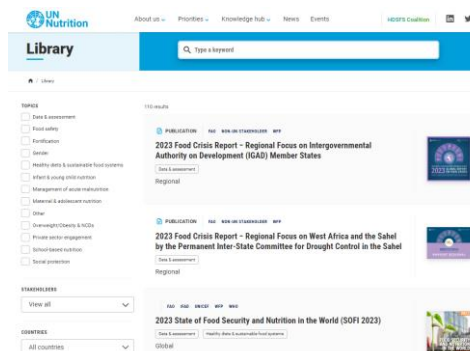
Facilitate UN agencies' coordination in countries in context of SDGs, Nutrition Decade, WHA targets and N4G & FSS follow-up

Guidance to integrate nutrition in country programming & policy

Being part of the SUN Global Support System (GSS) to support country action

Fostering "one UN" through UN-Nutrition country support (Irish Aid project)

Other KM products, tools & exchanges



Clinics with SUN & FSS Hub (2023)

Support to:

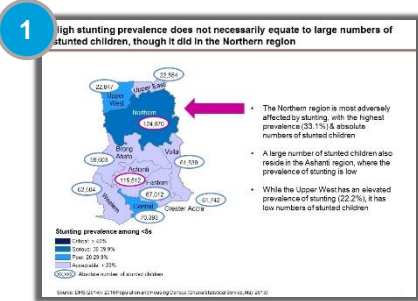
- Advocacy & comms.
- KM/MEAL
- TA
- Regional Hubs
- Multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs)

1. Zimbabwe
2. Myanmar
3. Lesotho
4. Liberia
5. Sierra Leone
6. Burkina Faso
7. DRC
8. Burundi
9. Niger

- New Knowledge Hub
- Discussion papers
- Analytical tools
- Webinars
- Multitude of UN resources, developed by our members

Country support: UN-Nutrition's analytical tools

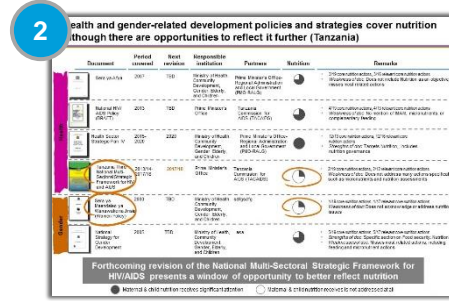
Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview



Identification of:

- Vulnerable groups
- Nutrition problems at nat'l & sub-nat'l levels
- Nutrition trends over time
- Factors contributing to malnutrition

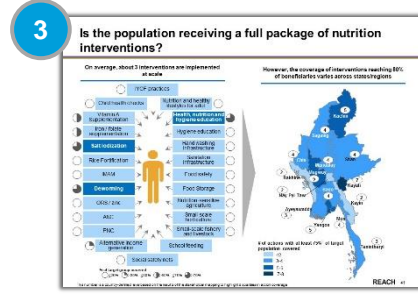
Policy & Plan Overview



Overview or identification of:

- Political priorities
- Extent that nutr. is reflected in policies, strategies & plans
- Opportunities for increased coherence & multi-sector coordination

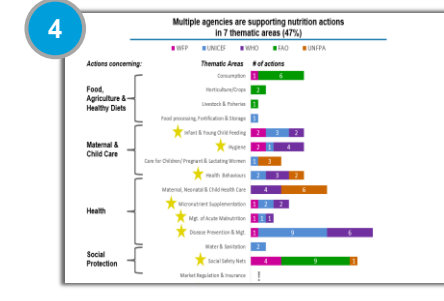
Nutrition Stakeholder & Action Mapping



Overview or identification of:

- Presence & roles of nutrition stakeholders
- Implementation status/gaps in coverage
- Delivery mechanisms
- Opportunities for synergies

UN-Nutrition Inventory



Overview or identification of:

- Intensity of UN nutrition actions implemented
- Alignment with national plans and strategies
- Opportunities for synergies and efficient resource mobilization

5 Nutrition Capacity Assessment

Identification of:

- Nutrition capacity constraints, incl. those related to coordination
- Capacity strengthening activities to address capacity gaps

6 Various tools developed by Member Agencies

- **Costing:** WFP Cost of Hunger & Malnutrition studies, WHO OneHealth tool, etc.
- **Dietary assessments:** WHO Diet Impact Assessment tool, FAO/WHO GIFT, WFP Fill the Nutrient GAP, etc.
- **SBCC:** UNICEF toolkit for Prevention of Childhood Overweight/Obesity

And much more

Nutrition governance processes

Priority area: Healthy diets from sust. food systems

Facilitate healthy diets in the context of climate change/natural resources/biodiversity

Support to the HDSFS Coalition

- Member of **HDSFS secretariat** (logistics & content), linking narrative with HDSFS
- Key function #2: supported **peer-to-peer learning** events (FBDGs, Col).
- Key function #3: special project on **NCDs**



Discussion papers:

- Collective undertakings, Nut-Environment paper led by UNEP
- Contribution to the **narrative on healthy diets from sustainable food systems**
- **Key messages** developed to support advocacy



Engagement in global events, leveraging country nutrition voices

- **Stockholm+50** & Appetites for Change event (*Nutrition & diets session*)
- **COP26/27/28** (organization of & speaking roles in several events)
- **CFS side events**
- **I-CAN**
- **COP-15 pt2**



Priority area: Private sector

Private sector engagement for positive nutrition outcomes

➤ Private sector engagement task team (PSTT)

- FAO
- IAEA
- UNICEF
- UNIDO
- WFP
- WHO



- Preliminary discussions with constituent members and PSTT
- Categorization of **reasons/types of engagements** with PS
- **Inventory of agencies' principles, rules and tools** for due diligence for engaging with PS entities
- **Analysis** of converging/diverging trends from the inventory
- Working towards the development of a **position paper on recommended approaches** for PS engagement

Priority area: Fragile contexts

Nutrition in fragile contexts, incl. the need to work towards systems change

➤ Fragile contexts technical group



- FAO
- IAEA
- OCHA
- UNICEF
- UNHCR
- WFP
- WHO
- GNC

- Launch of **Global Action Plan on Child Wasting (GAP)**
- Preliminary discussions with technical staff to define subsequent efforts
- Definition of **scope**
 - Wasting, stunting, NCDs
 - HDP nexus and resilience
 - Coordination and multisectoral approach
- **Key messages** around joint UN action in current crises
- **Narrative** to be refined

Priority area: WHA targets

Accelerate coordinated work on the WHA nutrition targets

➤ WHA targets technical group



- FAO
- IAEA
- IFAD
- UNICEF
- WFP
- WHO

- Preliminary discussions with staff from constituent agencies
- Draft **concept note on next steps**, incl. links with existing efforts + UN-Nutrition's country support and work on fragile contexts
- **Scoping exercise** of UN agency involvement in the respective WHA nutrition targets and existing alliances/groups
- Several **advocacy opportunities**: UN-Nutrition events, N4G anniversary, SUN GSS
- Stewardship regarding **targets post-2025**

Secretariat and stewardship

Main functions of the Secretariat

1. **Supporting an enabling environment** for the coordination of UN Member Agencies at **country level**
2. **Convening global engagement** and joined-up discussion among UN Member agencies
3. **Facilitating progress** on UN-Nutrition's strategic priorities

Knowledge management

- Nutrition, Human Rights and Law CoP
- School Nutrition CoP (+ School Meals Coalition)
- UN-Nutrition Journal on *Transforming Nutrition*
- Various tools (e.g. inventory)



Communications

- UN-Nutrition website (incl. Knowledge Hub)
- Social media presence
- Newsletter & e-Alerts
- Events
- UN-Nutrition Information Note



Strategic engagement with partners

- Committee on World Food Security (CFS)
- One Planet Network's Sustainable Food Systems Programme (SFSP)
- Inter-agency Taskforce on Non-Communicable Diseases (IATF-NCDs)
- Engagement in events organized by other partners
- Involvement in N4G Outreach Group and FSS coalitions

Governance and accountability

Chair
Rotational
with a 2-year
term

WHO chaired in 2021–2022

Dr. Naoko Yamamoto

Former Chair of UN-Nutrition and
WHO ADG of UHC/Healthier Populations

Incoming chair from IAEA

**Steering
Committee**
5 core
+
2 rotational

FAO
IFAD
UNICEF
WFP
WHO

+

IAEA
CGIAR

2-year term,
renewable

Accountable to UN Member
States via **ECOSOC**, through
the UN-Nutrition Chair

Secretariat accountable to SC

Also documents its
contributions in SUN
reporting processes

UN coordination on nutrition is already happening

Baseline survey to assess the state of UN coordination on nutrition at country level



Overall findings

- Of 101 countries, **44** responses
- **40 out of 44** identified a coordination structure through which UN actors collaborate on nutrition
- **22 responses (55%)** identified they were exclusively comprised of UN members
- **18 responses (45%)** had coordination structures dedicated to nutrition

Progress

- Perceived progress: **64% of countries (28 out of 44)** reported having improved nutrition coordination within UN entities over the last year. A trend observed in:
 - All major regions (Africa, Asia, LAC & the Middle East)
 - Many countries (20) where the UNRC or Humanitarian Coordinator was engaged in the nutrition agenda
- **39 countries** had **developed or updated joint UN frameworks** (e.g. UNSDCF) during the last 2 years to reflect a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition
- **39 countries** were pursuing **joint initiatives** (programmes, assessments or advocacy) by ≥ 2 UN agencies, often in both humanitarian & development settings

Who leads coordination structures?



- **28 out of 44** have identified a UN representative to lead collective nutrition activity
- UNRCs or humanitarian coordinators were engaged in **~73% (32)** of countries surveyed

Which UN agencies participate most?

- FAO (36 countries), UNICEF (36 countries), WFP (30 countries), WHO (29 countries)
- **14 others were cited in at least 1 country** (IFAD, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNMAS, UNOCHA, UNOPs, UNRWA, UN-Women, World Bank)



Thank you



UN Nutrition Secretariat

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UNSDCF Nutrition Guidance

UN-Nutrition regional webinar – Anglophone session



291 November 2023

Cooperation Framework cycle

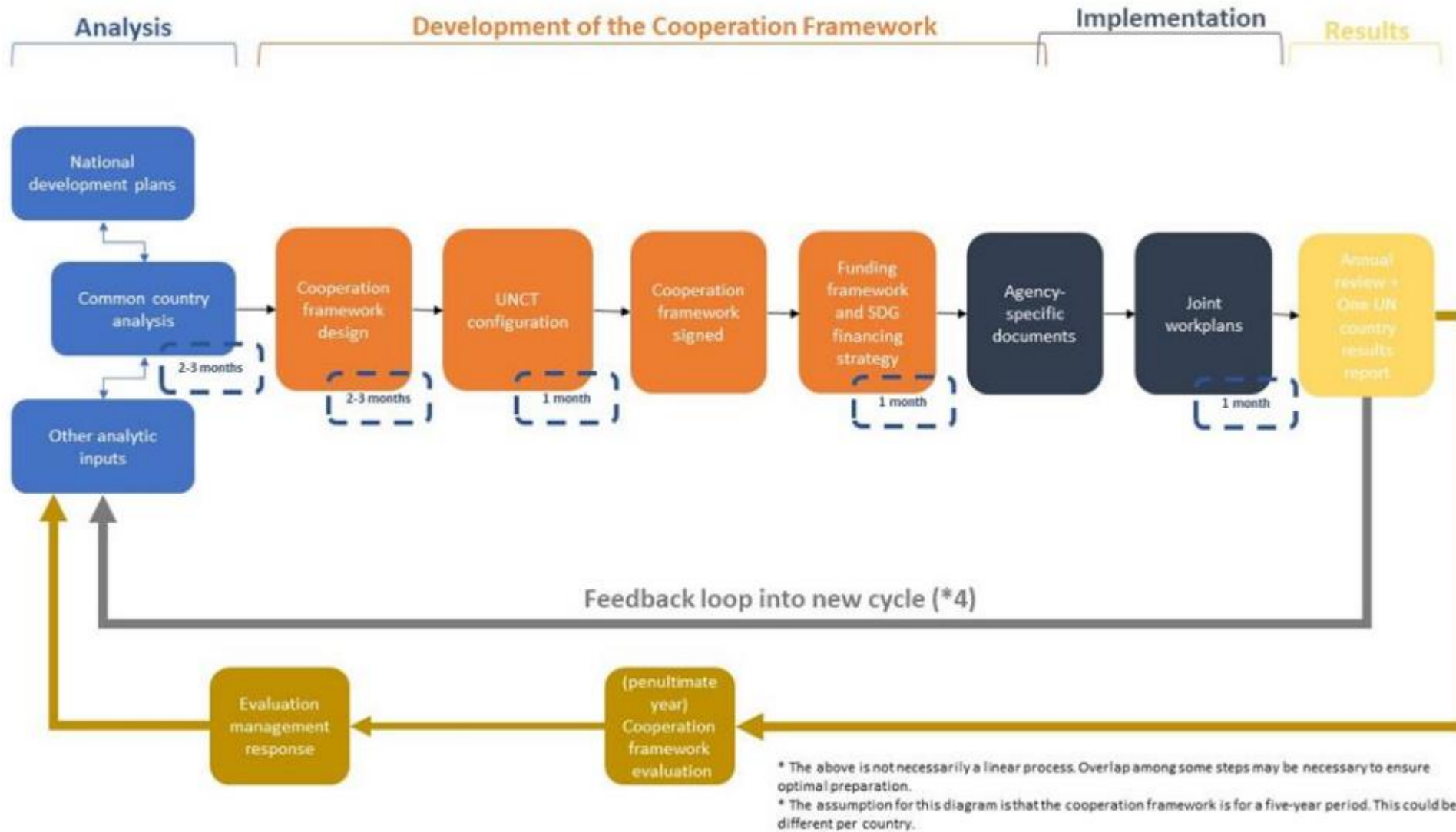


Figure 1: The Cooperation Framework cycle

UNSDCF principles, design and implementation

Guiding principles...

- Holistic programming
- 5 P
- Leaving no one behind
- HRBA to development
- Gender equality
- Resilience
- Sustainability
- Accountability

Design and preparation...

- ✓ Understanding country development landscape: alignment to national strategies, CCAs, the SDG analytical toolbox
- ...
- ✓ Theory of Change - adaptable, drawing on the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of findings
- ✓ Strategic priorities
- ✓ Outcomes, outputs, **indicators**

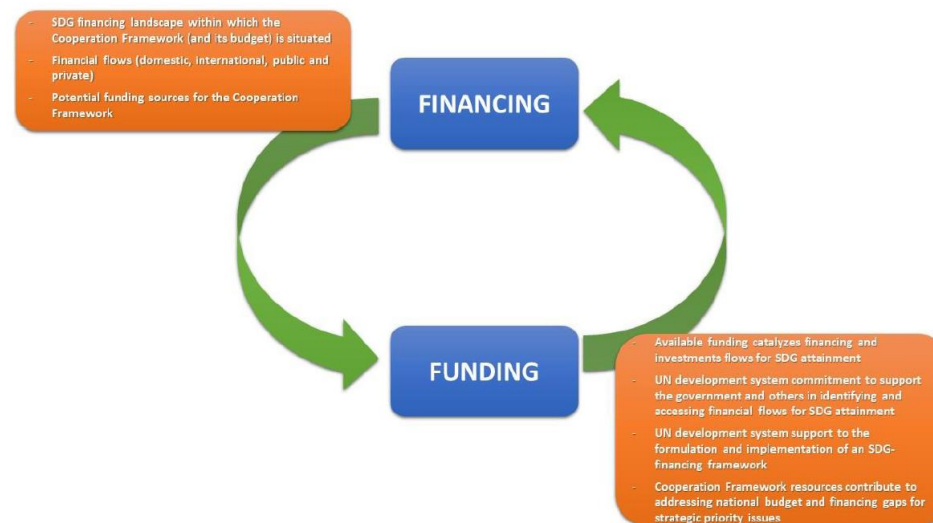


Figure 2: Cooperation Framework financing and funding strategy

Financing...

- ✓ Financial landscape analysis
- ✓ The funding framework
- ✓ Linking the UNSDCF with SDG financing

The UNSDCF principles, design and steps of implementation

Implementation...

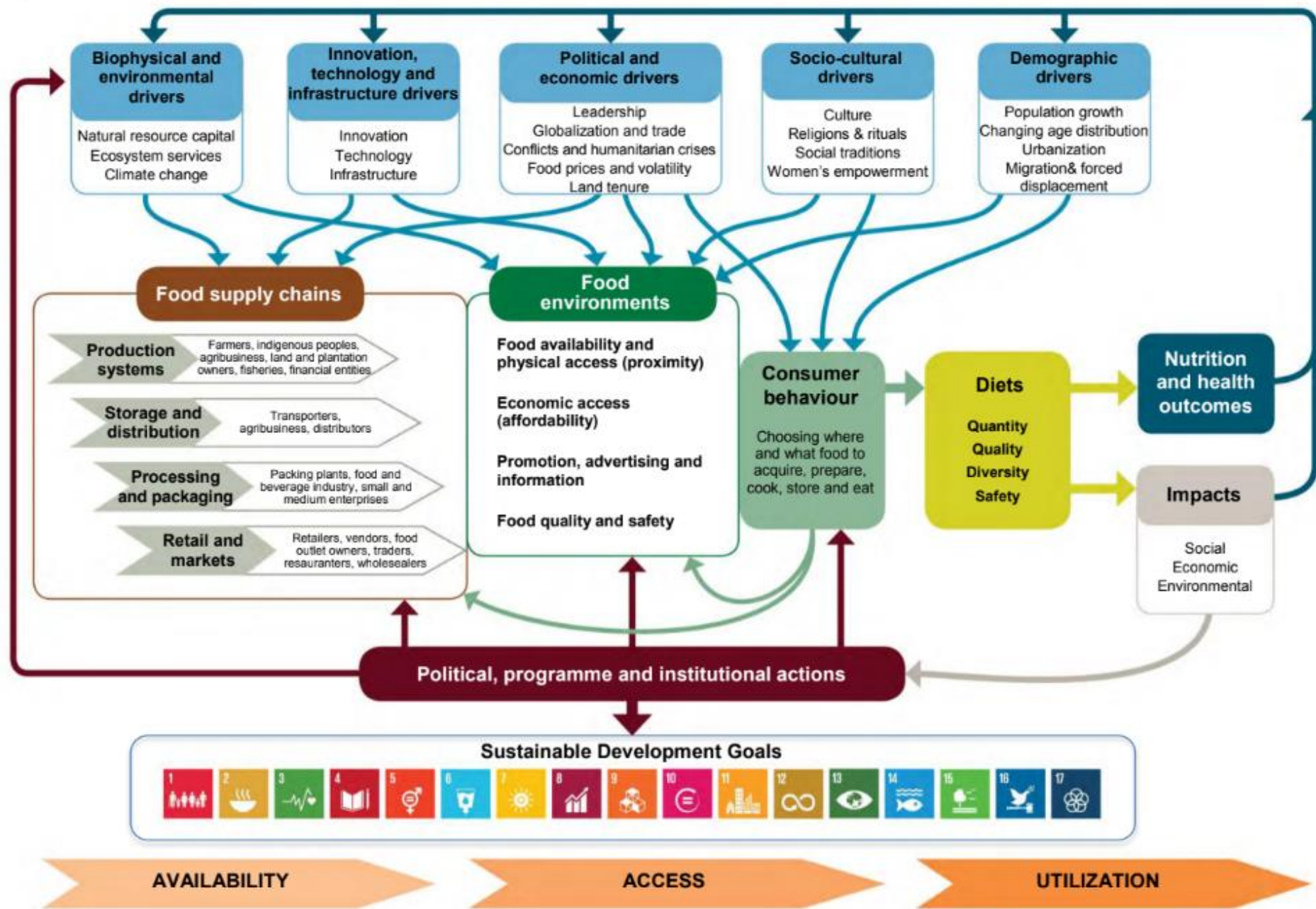


- ✓ Through UN development system entity development programs – **UN joint programming**: various possible mechanisms, depending on level of prioritization of some country development issues at national level
- ✓ Through **results group**
- ✓ Through **joint work plans**

Monitoring & evaluation...

- ✓ **CCA is the baseline for adaptive programming, and benchmark for evaluation along the cycle**
- ✓ Joint monitoring
- ✓ The RC and UNCT must issue an evaluation management response and action plan as a key accountability tool

Figure 1 Conceptual framework of food systems for diets and nutrition

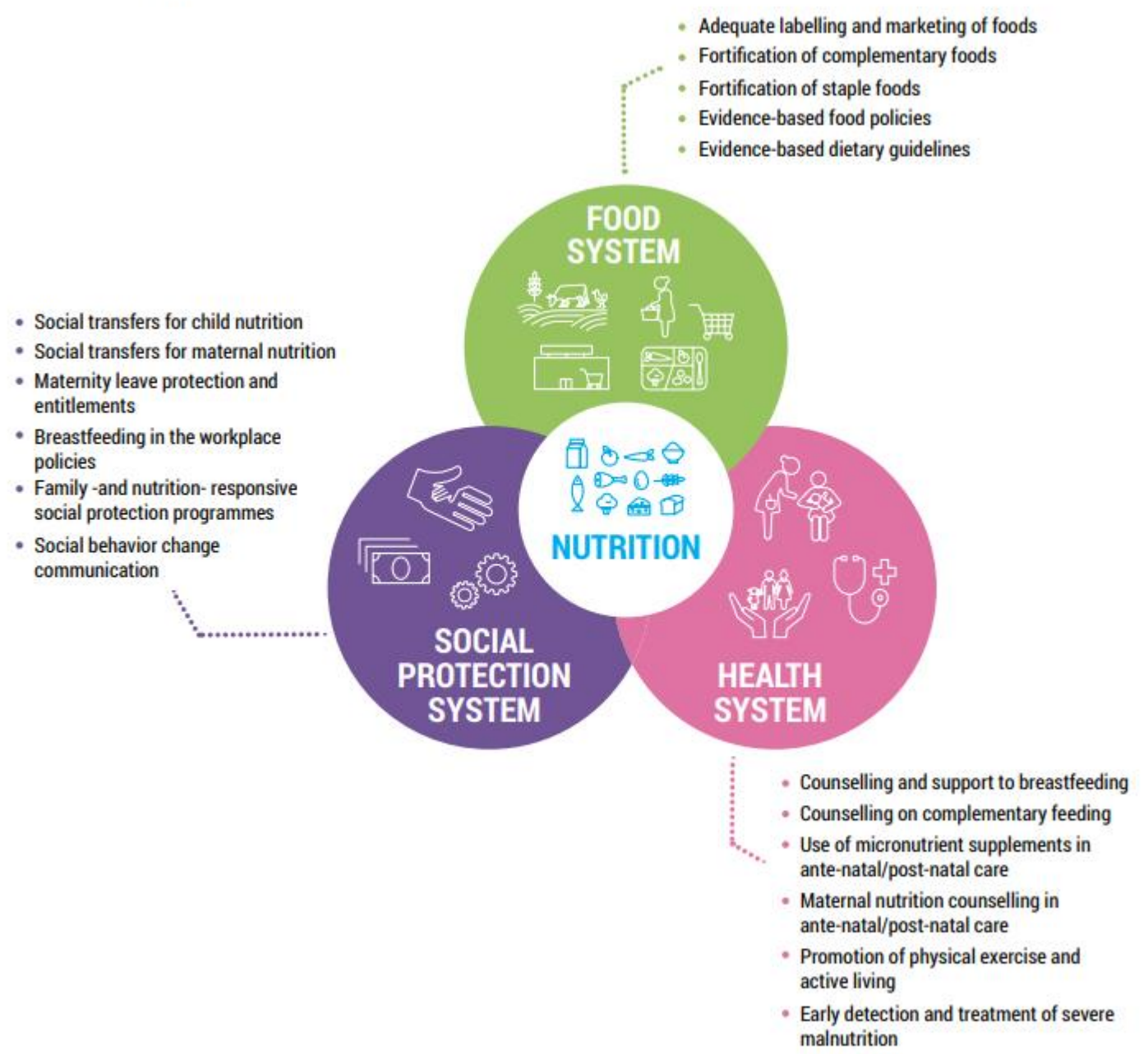


Leveraging the power of nutrition to achieve the SDGs



Integrating nutrition in UNSDCF and other country frameworks

A systems approach to nutrition



The UN-Nutrition checklist to integrate nutrition in UNSDCF

Ensuring UNSDCF situational analyses fully incorporate nutrition

- Does CCA fully identify nutrition outcomes, trends, challenges and nutrition determinants?
- Does it address needs of most vulnerable? Does this focus on women and child nutrition?
- Does CCA describe multisectoral governance arrangements, making use of available nutrition platforms/nutrition focal points

Integrating nutrition throughout UNSDCF development

- Does the UNSDCF take into account **SMART policy commitments and documents** (Malabo 2030, N4G, FSS...)?
- Has a nutrition investment case been conducted in the country to inform policy/planning/programming?
- Does the TOC identify nutrition challenges and tackle nutrition determinants?
- Have measures been identified to address nutrition across the HDPN?

The UN-Nutrition checklist to integrate nutrition in UNSDCF

Incorporating nutrition into the UNSDCF implementation strategy and finance

- Does the UNSDCF describe how the **mechanisms for ensuring operational plans** (e.g. sub-national plans, nutrition-relevant sectoral programme plans and plans for agencies) integrate **mutual accountability mechanisms**?
- Does the UNSDCF outline approaches to meet technical assistance requirements to implement planned actions?
- Can you clearly identify how using a **food system and nutrition lens** helps your UNCT prioritize national and sector development initiatives that it should support as a matter of priority in the UNSDCF?

Monitoring and evaluation

- Does the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework specify how the **nutrition information systems** (routine and survey) should be strengthened and used to inform decision-making?
- Does the M&E framework describe the processes for documenting and **disseminating best practices and lessons learnt** to support iterative management?
- Does the **M&E framework** describe the types of data analysis that will be performed, incl. data quality issues and the mechanisms in place to support rigorous data analysis and evaluation? Does this **reflect nutrition in a comprehensive way**?
- Are **nutrition-related SDG indicators and relevant national nutrition targets** integrated into the UNSDCF or UNDAF monitoring framework at relevant result levels?

Resources

for the integration of nutrition AND food systems into UN development frameworks

UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION
FRAMEWORK
Internal guidance

The graphic features a white circle containing the text, set against a background of horizontal rainbow-colored stripes.

UN Nutrition

A photograph of three young boys in school uniforms sitting on a bench and eating fruit.

A guidance note on nutrition
for United Nations country teams,
their government counterparts and
other stakeholders

The cover includes the UN logo, UNICEF logo, and a small 'EN' icon.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | World Food Programme | World Health Organization

unicef for every child | UNECE | 70

TECHNICAL NOTE ON SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS
Issue-based Coalition on sustainable food systems for Europe and Central Asia

A diagram showing a circular flow of food items (vegetables, fruits, grains) and a person preparing food, with a colorful wheel in the center.

Regional guidance

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | European Union | cirad

FOOD SYSTEMS PROFILE - SOMALIA
Catalysing the sustainable and inclusive transformation of food systems

A map of Somalia highlighted in green, surrounded by a circular graphic with a leaf and a scale.

Somalia



Thank you



UN Nutrition Secretariat

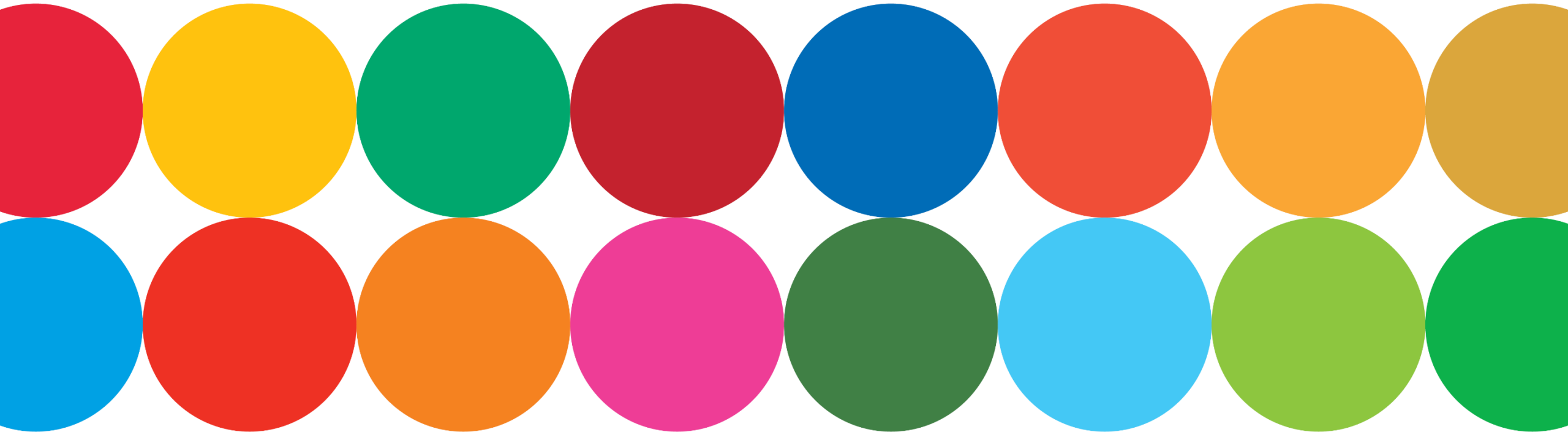
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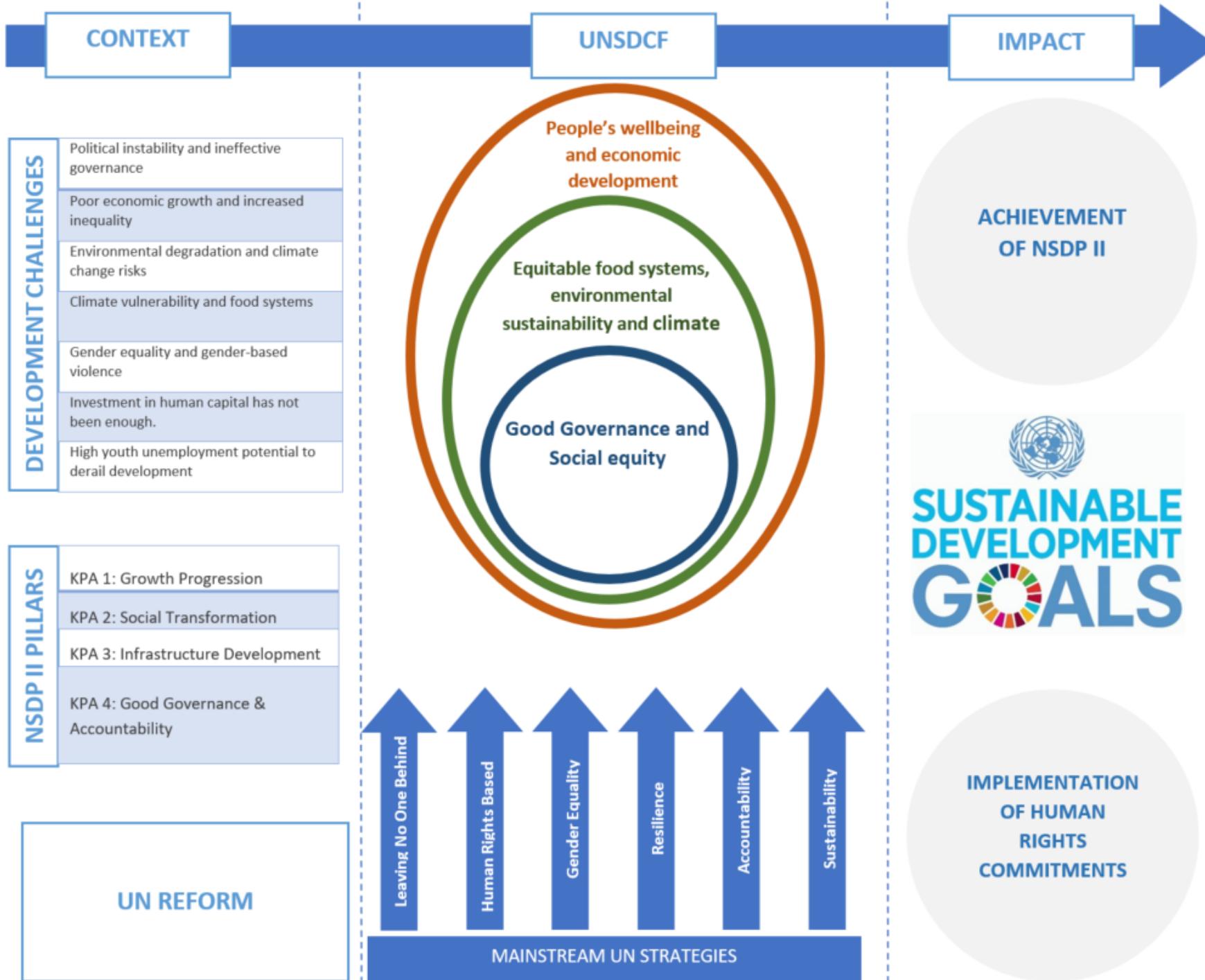
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Integrating nutrition into the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2024–2028)



UNITED
NATIONS
LESOTHO





Roadmap to Lesotho Cooperation Framework with a Nutrition Lens

1. **Common Country Analysis** – Nutrition and Food Security Chapter developed based on:

- Lesotho Nutrition Policy (2016)
- Food and Nutrition Strategy and Costed Action Plan (2019–2023)
- UN-Nutrition analytical tools (e.g. Multi-sectoral Nutrition Overview, mapping, UN-Nutrition Inventory [updated in 2022])
- Community-based Maximum Intervention Programme (MIP)

2. **UNDAF Evaluation** (findings and recommendations)

3. **National Consultative Strategic Prioritization Exercise**

- Good Governance and social equity Pillar
- **Food Systems, Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action**
- People's Wellbeing and Economic Development

4. **UN-Nutrition guidance note, including its checklist**



PILLAR 1 - GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL EQUITY

NSDP Pillar 4- Good Governance and Accountability

CF OUTCOME 1: People living in Lesotho are better served by improved governance systems and structures that are inclusive, accountable, with people empowered, engaged, and enjoying human rights, peace, justice and security by 2028

CF Outputs

CF output 1.1 Public sector reform

CF output 1.2 National statistical system and data

CF output 1.3 Civic Space and Participation

CF output 1.4 Regional, cross-border and global coordination and partnerships

CF output 1.5 Human rights (e.g. Right to adequate food)

CF output 1.6 Violence -SGBV, Violence Against Children and other forms of violence and harmful practices

CF output 1.7 SDG Financing

PILLAR 2 - FOOD SYSTEMS,
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE
ACTION

*NSDP II – Pillar 1 - Growth
Progression*

Pillar 3- Infrastructure Development

CF OUTCOME 2: By 2028 all people living in Lesotho enjoy improved food and nutrition security, with transformed national food systems, benefiting from natural resources and green growth that is risk informed, and climate-resilient

Cooperation Framework Outputs

CF output 2.1: Agricultural production and productivity

CF output 2.2: Nutrition - Communities especially the most vulnerable, have increased access to quality nutrition and adopt evidence based nutritional sensitive practices. (FAO, UNICEF WFP, WHO)

- Prevalence of stunting decreased from 34.5% to 29% by 2028
- Anaemia prevalence among women of reproductive age (15-49 years) will be reduced to 13% or lower
- Childhood overweight will not have increased and at most will affect 7 per cent of children under five years of age
- Exclusive breastfeeding rate during the first 6 months of life will be maintained at a level of at least 50%
- Childhood wasting and low birthweight will be maintained below 5%

CF output 2.3: Natural resource management

CF output 2.4: Resilience and Climate Action

PILLAR 3 – PEOPLE’S WELL
BEING AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

NSDP II – Pillar 1 - Growth Progression

NSDP II – Pillar 2 - Social Transformation

CF OUTCOME 3: By 2028, people living in Lesotho, especially the most vulnerable, have equitable and sustainable access to social services, increased decent employment in an enabling business environment, and benefit from transformative economic development

Cooperation Framework Outputs

CF output 3.1: Health (IYCF, maternal and child care, healthy diets)

CF output 3.2: HIV response (Nutrition-related interventions)

CF output 3.3: Social Protection (Nutrition clubs)

CF output 3.4: Transformed Education (Nutrition-sensitive School Feeding)

CF output 3.5: Private sector development

Resourcing the Cooperation Framework

- Multi-year Funding Framework to be developed by September 2024
- Partnership and Resource Mobilization strategy to be developed by December 2024

Strategies for resource mobilization

- Joint Planning and programming** to increase the cost-effectiveness, quality and impact (incl. for nutrition)
- Platforms for resource mobilization**, and making use of the complementary expertise and skills available across the UN entities
- Partnerships strengthening** and facilitating dialogues with the private sector
- Support the Government in identifying **new sources of SDG financing**

UN Oversight Mechanisms

GoL Oversight Mechanisms Oversight

Joint Steering Committee
Co-Chaired by: MoFDP (Minister and UN RC)

Aid Coordination Forum

UNSDCF Outcome Results Groups

NSDP II Coordination Structure

UNSDCF Outcome 1: Good Governance & Social Equity

Technical Programme Coherence Team

UNSDCF Outcome 2: Food Systems, Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

UN-Nutrition focal points engage in this group

Chair: Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security & Nutrition
Co – Chair: Ministry of Environment & Forestry

UNSDCF Outcome 3: People's Wellbeing and Economic Development

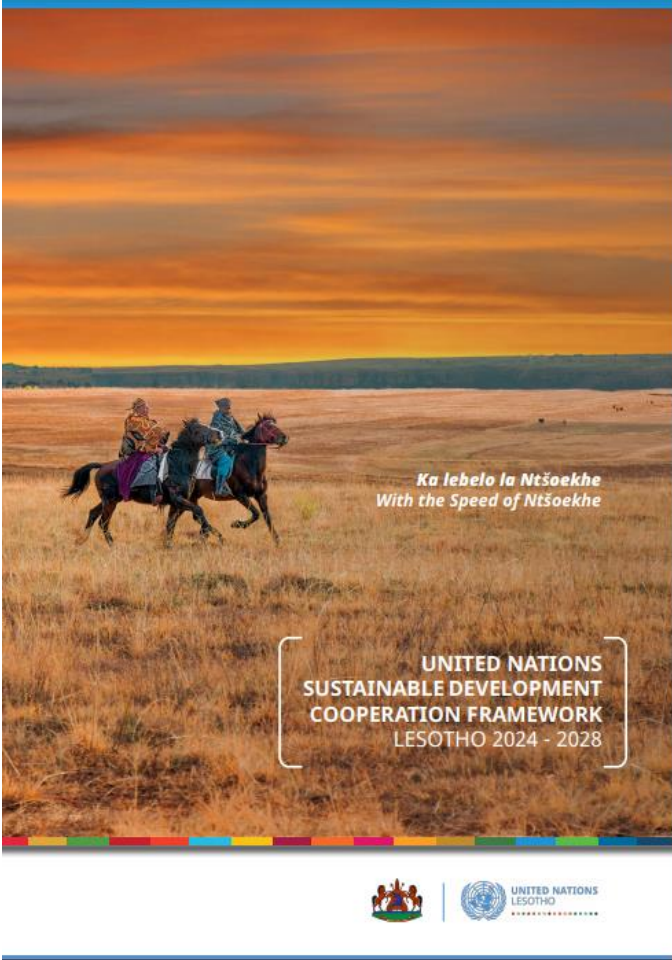
Joint UN Team on HIV/AIDS

Humanitarian Development Nexus Group

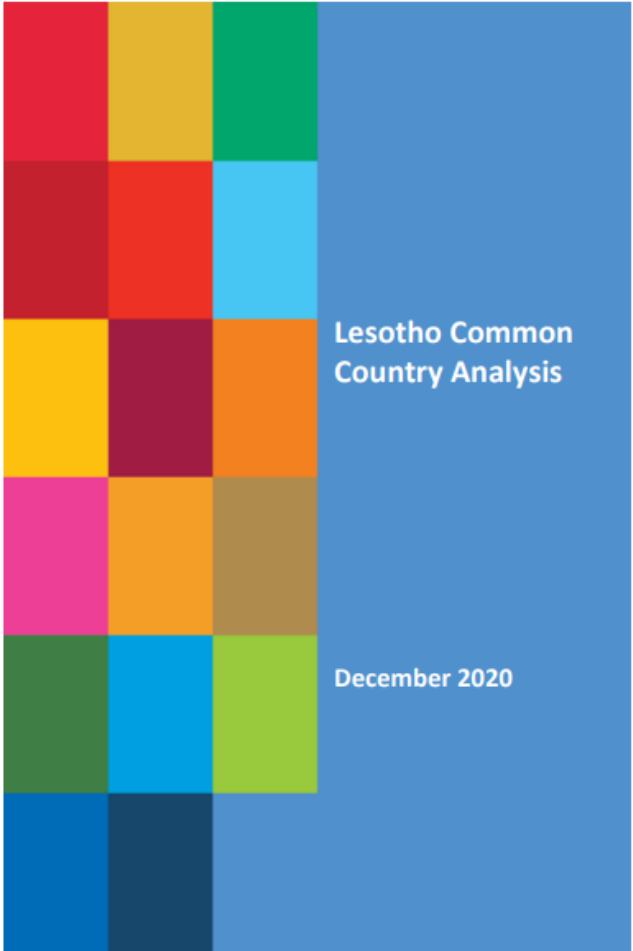
Way forward for nutrition mainstreaming in the implementation of the Cooperation Framework

- Food Systems Joint Programme with:
 - a) Production and Productivity
 - b) Nutrition upscaling
 - c) Natural Resource Management
- Communication and Resource Mobilization Strategies (*Nutrition ASBCC strategy incorporated*)
- Strengthening of partnerships
- Strengthened coordination structures on nutrition through food systems approach (RCO, UNCT, government counterparts, private sector, civil society, people with disability, etc. - leaving no one behind)

Resources



<https://bit.ly/47US2yq>



<https://bit.ly/49XFIVn>

THANK YOU!



**UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GROUP**



- 1. In your view, is UN collaboration on nutrition effective in your country/region?**
- 2. What works (critical success factors) for UN collaboration on nutrition at country/regional level?**
- 3. What opportunities in your country/region would help you step up UN collaboration on nutrition?**
- 4. What are some of the main barriers for UN nutrition collaboration at country/regional level?**
- 5. Do you have any needs, asks or ideas to improve joint/integrated nutrition action?**



Thank you



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