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Introduction

The Scaling up Nutrition Secretariat (SUN- Yemen) played a pivotal role in highlighting Yemen's issues through active participation in global summits represented in food and nutrition, as the Secretariat succeeded in participating in the World Summit on Nutrition for Growth (N4G) and the Summit on Food Systems.

Global summits are opportunity for all countries on priority issues. In 2021, the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G) and the Food Systems Summit were held to awaken the whole world to the importance of the current stage and the growing demand for food and is an opportunity to redefine and rearrange priorities in line with the needs of the current stage. The Summit brought together donors, governments, the private sector, experts, specialists etc. Governments have made commitments for the next ten years to achieve the sustainable development goals, and donors have made their financial commitments to cover priority needs. Experts and specialists assisted in developing solutions to rearrange food systems in providing food security and raising the level of nutrition in countries suffering from crises and conflicts. Countries had the opportunity to engage in the N4G Summit and the Food Systems Summit so that the United Nations named 2021 the "Year of Nutrition" for its events and conferences.

Workshops are still held on an ongoing basis, attended by organizers of national dialogues in their countries and their task forces. The experts help to develop timely and sustainable solutions through which countries can reprioritize according to the needs and requirements of the stage that threatens food scarcity, which countries must reschedule their priorities and work hard to withstand the growing need for food in the event of a decline in the global supply of food.

Why Nutrition?

At 2012 World Health Assembly (WHA), 192 countries agreed to the first-ever set of global nutrition targets while world leaders committed to a target to end "all forms of malnutrition" by 2030 as part of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). And nearly 50 million fewer children were stunted in 2018 compared to 2000. However, malnutrition continues to be a driver of poverty and inequity—with the gravest impacts on young children. Poor nutrition underpins nearly half of all child deaths. An estimated 149 million children under age five are stunted (too short for their age) as a result of chronic undernourishment; many of these children are subsequently cognitively impaired.

Another 49 million children are wasted (underweight for their height).

Child obesity and overweight is increasing at an alarming rate. In the next decade, it is estimated that over 40 million infants and young children will be affected by overweight and obesity, the vast majority of them living in lower and middle-income countries.

The Challenge

We have made important progress to reduce malnutrition worldwide over the past decade but the

The Opportunity

We know more now than ever before about how to tackle the challenge.

- ◆ Improving nutrition during the critical 1,000-day window between pregnancy and a child's second birthday is one of the best investments donors and countries can make to ensure brighter, more prosperous futures.
- ◆ Improved nutrition can save lives and grow economies—and nutrition investments are proven to have a high return on investment.
- ◆ Nutrition for Growth (N4G) is an opportunity for countries and other partners to make specific, measurable commitments toward achieving these targets and putting the world on a path to greater prosperity.
- ◆ The path to ending malnutrition worldwide will require greater investment, political commitment, and scale up of interventions

Nutrition for Growth Summits Snapshot

Nutrition for Growth (N4G) is a global pledging moment to drive greater action toward ending malnutrition and helping ensure everyone, everywhere can reach their full potential.

Over the past decade, the governments of the United Kingdom, Brazil, and Japan each stepped up to mobilize N4G nutrition commitments against the backdrop of the Olympics—a symbol of health, strength, and human potential. With the support of governments, donors, civil society, and the private sector, the result has been unprecedented, coordinated, and impactful commitments to improve global nutrition

- ◆ N4G delivers much-needed action on policy and financing commitments to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2—Ending Hunger in All its Forms—which is an underlying driver of 12 of the 17 SDGs.
- ◆ Under the umbrella of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, the last ten years have seen growing global momentum to prioritize nutrition.

2013

The first N4G Summit was held in London in 2013 where 100 stakeholders endorsed the Global N4G Compact and pledged more than \$4 billion in new nutrition-specific projects and \$19 billion in nutrition-sensitive projects.

2017

In 2017, stakeholders gathered in Milan for the Global Nutrition Summit to track against pledges made in London, take stock of progress made, and further build the coalition of global nutrition champions. This Summit generated an additional \$3.4 billion in nutrition pledges, further growing global momentum to improve nutrition.

2021

In 2021, N4G will continue to spearhead the effort to end malnutrition in all its forms at the Tokyo N4G Summit, which will focus on the critical roles of food, health, and social protection systems in delivering good nutrition for all.

Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit 2021

The Nutrition for Growth Year of Action is a rare opportunity to accelerate progress on malnutrition, beginning with a successful virtual launch hosted by the Governments of Canada and Bangladesh in December 2020. Key events throughout the year will focus on mobilizing new policy and financial commitments to help reverse the impacts of COVID-19 and position nutrition as an essential development priority. This series of pledging moments has the potential to transform the way the world tackles the global challenge of malnutrition, culminating in the Nutrition for Growth Summit in Japan in December 2021. It is time for partners to unlock the power of good nutrition by:

- ◆ Adopting stronger, evidence-based nutrition policies at global, regional, and country levels;
- ◆ Pledging to increase financing for proven nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions;
- ◆ Committing to align and harmonize actions across sectors and stakeholders

**NUTRITION
FOR GROWTH**
Food, Health, & Prosperity for All

Together, we can ensure individuals and families have the nutrition they need to live healthy and productive lives and that countries have the human capital they need to fuel health, social, and economic development in the final decade of the SDGs.

Thematic Area

- ◆ **Integrating nutrition into Universal Health Coverage:** Commitments to be made toward ensuring that nutrition is an essential component of UHC.
- ◆ **Transforming food systems:** Promoting safe, sustainable, and healthy foods that support people and planet:
- ◆ **Promoting resilience:** Addressing malnutrition effectively in fragile and conflict affected contexts
- ◆ **Commitment for resilience** in fragile and conflict-affected contexts:
- ◆ **Financing for nutrition:** Securing new investment and driving innovation in nutrition financing

Yemen's Participation in the N4G - 2021

The Scaling up Nutrition Secretariat (SUN- Yemen) succeeded in drawing the attention of the participating donors in the summit to the nutrition issues of Yemen.

Acute malnutrition is a major public health problem in Yemen. Yemen is also the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. The UN has estimated that 17.4 million people (IPC Phase 3 and above) in need of assistance as of now, increasing to 19 million starting June to the end of the year. Of greatest concern is the 31,000 people facing extreme hunger levels (IPC Phase 5 Catastrophe) now, rising to 161,000 by June. In addition, approximately 2.2 million children under the age of five, including 538,000 severely malnourished, and about 1.3 million pregnant and lactating women are projected to suffer from acute malnutrition over the course of 2022.

Acute Malnutrition Situation Out of the 43 zones (333 districts) analysed, 40 districts (12 percent) are classified as *Critical* (IPC Phase 4) and 199 (60 percent) in *Serious* (IPC Phase 3), with the remaining 94 (28 percent) in *Alert* (IPC Phase 2). In the projection period, similar to food insecurity, there is a dramatic increase in severity, with 72 districts moving from *Serious* to *Critical* making up 108 districts (32 percent) and 66 districts moving from *Alert* to *Serious* making up 193 districts (58 percent). Of greatest concern are the two districts in Hajjah (Abs and Hayran) classified as *Extremely Critical* (IPC Phase 5) by June.

Based on the 2021 SMART surveys, the national prevalence of wasting stands at 9.9 % (confidence interval of 9.5-10.3 %). Wasting identified by weight for height z-scores and/or oedema was significantly higher in children aged 6 to 23 months than in children aged 24 to 59 months.

In most governorates, the prevalence of wasting is below 15 % except in Hajjah, Al Hudaydah and Taizz, ranging from 17 % to 26.9 % well above the 15 % WHO emergency threshold.

The key drivers of wasting are common in most of the zones of Yemen.

Food insecurity is the primary driver of malnutrition, with the underlying being limited access to and consumption of nutritious foods due to unaffordability, inadequate WASH due to unsafe drinking water, and poor sanitation, a leading cause of infections and enteropathy among children. Children's diets are suboptimal, and only 11.5 percent of children aged 6-23 months receive a minimum acceptable diet, while almost 86 percent of the children are not receiving sufficient food in terms of quantity and quality.

Infant and young child feeding practices directly affect the nutritional status of children under two years of age and, ultimately, impact child survival. Breast milk provides all the nutrients, vitamins and minerals an infant needs for growth during their first six months of life. It protects against infection, making early and exclusive breastfeeding the most economical and safe public health intervention. However, in emergency contexts where factors such as stress, conflict and displacement exist, breastfeeding is often interrupted, and many mothers stop breastfeeding early. In Yemen, the rate of exclusive breastfeeding stands at 19.9 percent for children less than six months, and continued breastfeeding is interrupted drastically, with only one-third of mothers reporting continued breastfeeding beyond the first birthday.

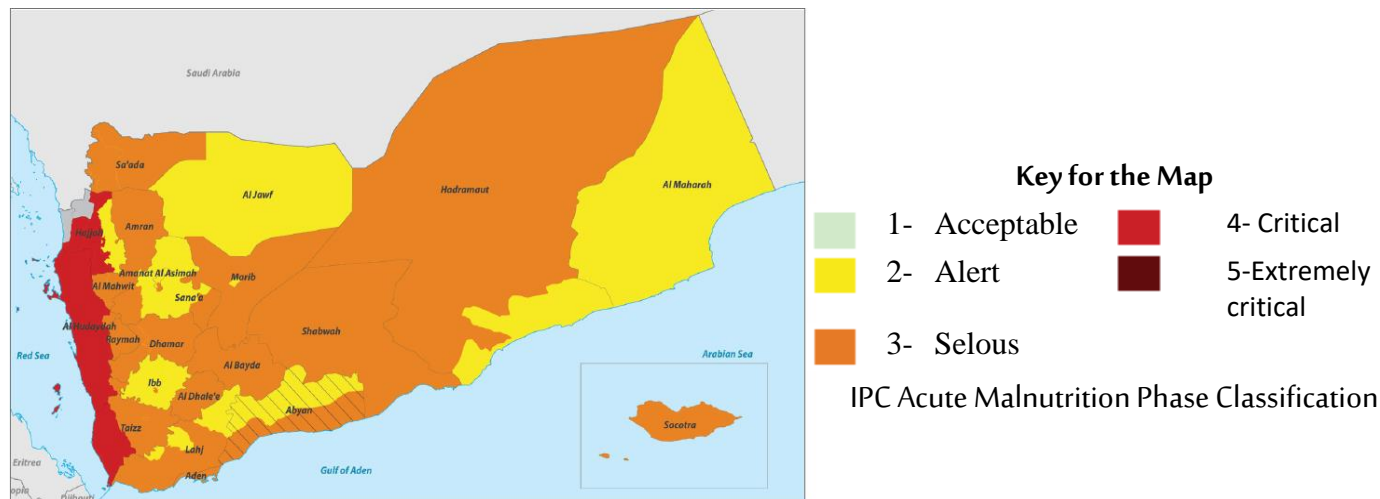
The recent SMART surveys show that stunting was higher in children aged 24 to 59 months than in children aged 6 to 23. Furthermore, boys were slightly more stunted at 47.7 percent compared to girls at 42.3 percent. The highest burden of stunting is found in Raymah (66.4 percent), while the least prevalence is in Al Mahra.

Finally, the escalating armed conflict remains one of the main root causes of acute malnutrition. Despite the challenging context the Yemeni government has developed the national multi-sectoral nutrition plan as the successful nutrition interventions are a prerequisite for successful emergency response, health, and sustainable development.

The Secretariat also participated in the Nutrition for Growth Summit - Tokyo 2021 through a number of actions, activities and events, including:

Yemen Action Plan on child wasting (YAP)	Yemen's Commitments to Nutrition (2021-2030)
Partnership between the (SUN) and (GAVI)	Yemen's Participation in the Nutrition Information Systems Side Event

Current Acute Malnutrition Situation | January- May 2022



First: Yemen Action Plan on child wasting: Challenges and opportunities

The Coordinating Secretariat of the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement in Yemen (SUN-Yemen) sought to be part of this global momentum and adopted the preparation of a plan to combat child wasting in Yemen and by involving all local actors to support the cause of addressing child wasting in Yemen through the technical team (representatives of sectors main ministries of health, water, environment, agriculture, fisheries and education), as well as involving the Social Fund for Development, UNICEF,

the World Food Program, the Food and Agriculture Organization, as well as the World Health Organization and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

The situation in Yemen has made it a priority on the humanitarian partners' agenda. Therefore, in November 2020, the Movement Secretariat in Geneva contacted the Secretariat in Yemen regarding efforts to develop a Global Action Plan (GAP) on wasting.



- ◆ In December 2020, when the secretariat met for the first time with UNICEF and the NC Nutrition Group to discuss the road map for the process of developing the Yemen Plan to Combat Child Wasting (YAP), and it was agreed on the joint presidency of the secretariat and UNICEF to implement this work, so that this process would be government-led and government-owned, with a perspective Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder.
- ◆ A national working group was formed to prepare the plan. The working group members were from the Secretariat, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Food Program, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the Nutrition Cluster. While the secretariat used its sectoral technical team from the government in the process through consultations and workshops.
- ◆ The process started with the identification of all national nutrition policies and interventions in accordance with the Global Plan tools, these interventions were mainly taken from the MSNAP Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Action Plan, the National Nutrition Strategy for the health sector, as well as the national strategies related to maternal and child health.
- ◆ In September 2021, the final drafts of the operational roadmap for the Yemen Action Program on the accountability framework as well as the target population and the estimated budget were completed, and by the end of October 2021, the NAP was endorsed by the government and shared with the international team to prepare the country summary paper and integrate the action plan national in the global action plan

Preparing Yemen's Plan on child wasting-YAP

The plan was prepared through the next steps:

1. Informing the concerned parties of the plan about the objectives of preparing the plan, which was represented by the fact that this plan is a tool for mobilizing resources through Yemen's participation in the global plan that will be presented to donors at the N4G Summit, which was held in December 2021 AD. Hence the desire of the authorities to participate in preparing the plan.
2. The secretariat communicated with UNICEF to inform them of the developments related to the preparation of the global plan to combat child wasting, and Yemen's desire to be one of the participating countries.
3. The secretariat with UNICEF contacted the international team and obtained technical support for preparing the plan, and all relevant documents were received.
4. UNICEF worked to communicate with the rest of the relevant United Nations organizations (the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Food Program, and the UNHCR) and a task force was formed to prepare the plan, which included representatives from United Nations agencies and the Yemeni government (the Secretariat and the Ministry of Health).
5. The secretariat team worked with the sectoral technical team to collect all relevant interventions in Yemen, the number of which exceeded 100; Then these interventions were discussed with the international team and the task force that reduced them by grouping some of them or removing the interventions that are outside the scope of this plan.
6. The task force was supported by a local consultant to complete the work related to the preparation of the accountability framework and the estimated budget for the plan.
7. The preparation of the plan and its estimated budget were completed by holding several bilateral meetings as well as two technical workshops.



Priorities of Yemen's YAP action Plan

The YAP comprised the most priority actions under each of the GAP's four outcomes:

Outcome 1:

REDUCE LBW BY IMPROVING MATERNAL NUTRITION

Under the first outcome framework, the YAP focused:

- ◆ Micronutrient supplementation (Iron Folate)
- ◆ Promote Skilled birth attendants/deliveries in Health Facilities Promote antenatal care and post-natal care
- ◆ Develop/update a national guide/action plan addressing the adolescent and youth reproductive health (RH) issues including early pregnancy Set up youth friendly Reproductive Health services, BMI assessments, MUAC screening and Haemoglobin in universities and at community-level MUAC screening of all Pregnant women and Lactating Women
- ◆ Treatment of acute malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women
- ◆ Promotion of adolescent/teen girls' nutrition in Yemen (school-base and out-of-school activities)

Besides that, a focus on food and social protection interventions were developed by including:

- ◆ Establish and support small and medium sized enterprise projects for women and youth groups within the framework of the Agricultural and Fisheries Production Promotion Fund
- ◆ Promotion of diversified agriculture production targeting women households
- ◆ Establishing healthy school meals kitchens
- ◆ Provision of conditional cash incentives for families of girl students
- ◆ Provide water tanks, clean safe drinking water and enhance the healthy nutrition and hygiene practices in the targeted schools.

Outcome 2:

IMPROVED CHILD HEALTH BY IMPROVING ACCESS TO PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, WASH SERVICES AND ENHANCED FOOD SAFETY

Under the second outcome framework, the YAP focused:

- ◆ Provision of Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) - special focus on diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria in endemic areas) Establishing the electronic child health information registry
- ◆ Provision and scale up of Minimum Service Package (MSP), (health and nutrition services) Increase immunization coverage.
- ◆ Improve WASH sector capacity for multisectoral coordination and emergency response Provision of safe drinking water to the vulnerable communities (including IDPs) Promotion of good hygiene and sanitation
- ◆ Rehabilitation and maintenance of all school toilet facilities

Other actions under the food system and Wash focused on:

- ◆ Reduce chemical risk in production by regulating use of agricultural chemicals (pesticides) Purification of irrigation water from pest and fungal infections
- ◆ Promote household and small scale food preservation and storage practices (targeting women) Revitalize the national Codex committee (food hygiene and food regulation)
- ◆ Strengthen national food safety interventions (build capacity for food safety in emergency + establish food safety strategy, vision, regulation and laws) Establish a surveillance of foodborne diseases
- ◆ Enhancing community knowledge on food safety and hygiene practices

Outcome 3:

IMPROVED IYCF BY IMPROVING BREASTFEEDING PRACTICES AND CHILDREN'S DIETS IN THE FIRST YEARS OF LIFE

Under the Third outcome framework, the YAP focused:

- ◆ Implement and expand Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) Implement and expand Baby Friendly Community Initiative (BFHI) Maintain and scale up IYCF Corners services
- ◆ Strengthening monitoring BMS code violations
- ◆ Promote home gardening programmes to produce nutritious foods, including seeds and mini-irrigation kits
- ◆ Cash support for small food industries for rural households.
- ◆ Development of Children's recipes for complementary foods.
- ◆ Cash vouchers, particularly targeted at improving dietary consumption of fruits and vegetables at household level
- ◆ General food assistance (GFA)
- ◆ Cash vouchers to household targeting the 1000days

Outcome 4:

IMPROVED TREATMENT OF CHILDREN, PLW, PLWHIV WITH WASTING BY STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEMS AND INTEGRATING TREATMENT INTO ROUTINE PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICES

Under the Forth outcome framework, the YAP focused:

- ◆ Development and improvement of nutrition curriculum for health institute and universities to include nutrition in the preservice training
- ◆ Activate the role of health supervisors and volunteers in improving the nutritional and health status of mothers and children through Health Facilities , community and school based activities improving the nutritional and health status of mothers and children through HFs , community and school-based activities
- ◆ Scale up coverage and quality of services for the management of acute malnutrition (severe and moderate acute malnutrition) Strengthen the nutrition surveillance system at all settings (HFs, community, schools and others)
- ◆ Strengthen Nutrition Information Systems
- ◆ Establish food safety M&E system (for evidence-based planning and programming)
- ◆ Development of pre-service and in-service nutrition training materials for agricultural extension workers
- ◆ Provide conditional cash assistance transfer to HHs which has U5 children, to reduce acute malnutrition among the vulnerable beneficiaries and to enable targeted HHs to purchase food and necessities in targeted areas

By 2025

- ◆ REDUCE LOW BIRTHWEIGHT TO 27.9%
- ◆ INCREASE THE RATE OF EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING TO 25%
- ◆ INCREASE THE COVERAGE OF TREATMENT SERVICES FOR WASTED CHILDREN
- ◆ IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH BY ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, INCLUDING ACCESS TO QUALITY ESSENTIAL HEALTH-CARE SERVICES

Next steps and lessons learned

Amidst the competing priorities; the overwhelming work-load in a dynamic and humanitarian context such as Yemen's, the national team managed to tackle the process smoothly with intense attention. The success was the fruit of the collaborative efforts of all the partners from the governmental line-ministries and UN agencies who have taken upon themselves a sense of responsibility towards the people who are suffering from the brunt of the collapsed situation in Yemen. It was their belief in the capacity of mobilizing more support for the country whose humanitarian crisis is invisible.

learned lesson

Collaborative efforts always succeed if the parties are willing to share expertise and dedicate time and experts. It is about the good management of the task, and the support of decision-makers. It is, also, about limited tasks with clear objectives and outputs. Always, harmony between different stakeholders is the product of not only "mutual interests" but also "mutual understanding"; this can be achieved when participants agree on the ultimate noble vision. Success is the invention of a clear road-map and implementation tools, this was the case with YAP development process.

Next Steps:

The Scaling up Nutrition Secretariat (SUN- Yemen), in cooperation with the United Nations Nutrition Network (UNN), which includes (UNICEF, WHO, FAO, WFP) to establish an *Operationalization Team for the YAP*. The overall objective is to support and advocate for the operationalization phase of YAP. This plan is considered one of the best mobilization tools among the national plans in Yemen as it has prioritized the most impactful interventions. The ownership of the plan is drawn from its task-force membership who came from the UN agencies and the GoY. These partners are supporting and prioritizing the implementation of the YAP. The specific objectives are to:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Establish the operationalization team of YAP. | 2. Develop the operational plan and projects proposals for the YAP. |
| 3. Establish effective coordination and funding mechanism for the YAP. | 4. Publicizing the plan among the donor community and mobilizing more support and funding for its implementation |

The members of the YAP Operationalization Team will work together as a team with global reach, in a trusting, collaborative and transparent manner. The YAP Operationalization Team should be considered a safe space for open dialogue. The Team will work on concrete files of high priority for the YAP objectives. Each meeting, to take place is supported and prepared by the co-chairs of the YAP: SUN Yemen Secretariat and UNICEF. The YAP Operationalization Team will provide robust and creative pathway seeking for YAP's financing and implementation, delivers concrete proposals towards achieving outcomes for nutrition, and facilitates key partnerships and advocacy efforts for ramping up nutrition finance, including through engaging with partners on domestic and external resource mobilization. Moreover, sustainability, transformative approaches, and long-term capacity development in will be considered in all deliberations.

Yemen Action Plan on child wasting YAP (Success Story)



Yemen's participation in the N4G Summit 2021, and the inclusion of the activities of the Multispectral Nutrition Plan in the Global Plan to confront Child Wasting (GAP) represented a success story that drew the attention of donors and Summit participants who expressed their admiration for the SUN's ability under these critical circumstances that the country is going through. Yemen's plan to confront the Child Wasting (YAP) was a tool to mobilize more funding and support for Yemen.

Second: Yemen Action Plan on child wasting

What is a commitment?

Commitments that meet this standard must also meet four key criteria:

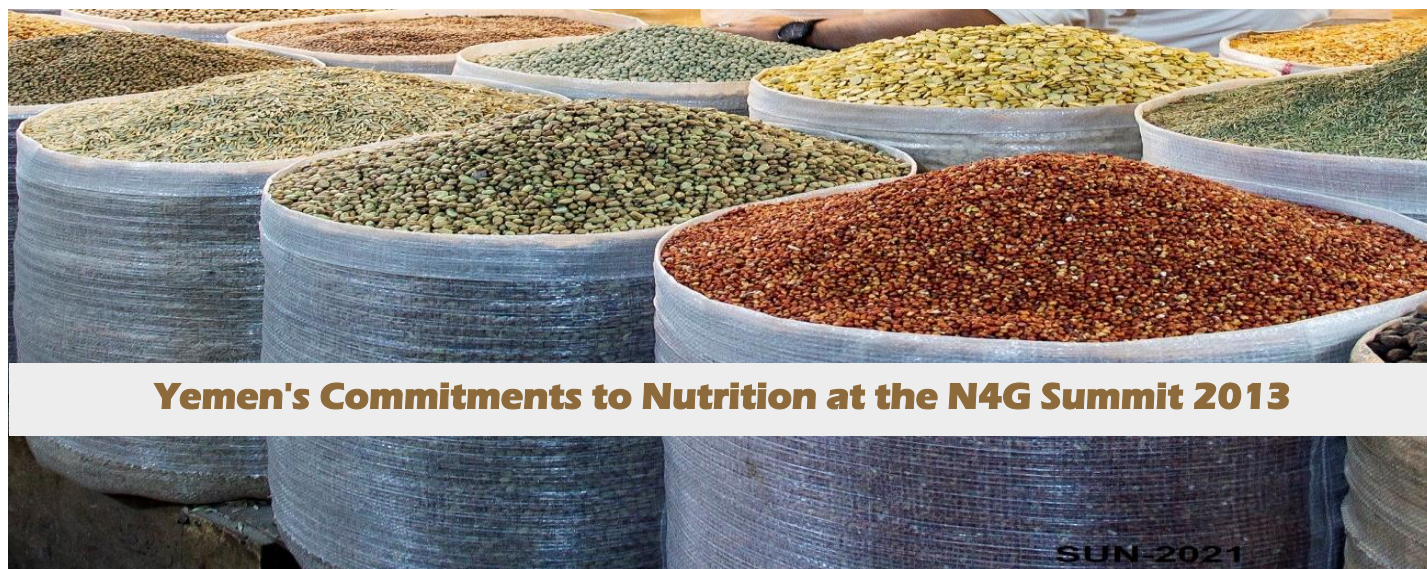
Be SMART	Align with national priorities, per the questions below;
Align with the N4G Principles for Engagement;	Align with the accountability framework (to be announced in 2021).

Who can make a commitment?

- ◆ Government ministries and bodies — particularly Ministries that are mandated to work on nutrition, including Ministries of Finance and Planning, Health, Agriculture, Education, and Social Protection.
- ◆ Donor governments, multilateral, international, and philanthropic organizations.
- ◆ Civil society organizations working on delivering nutrition programs or improving nutrition policy, communications, and consumer behavior change.
- ◆ Private sector and business — business and consumer associations, multinational corporations, and small and medium enterprises involved in producing, packaging, retailing, and marketing food products.

Commitments Framework of the Nutrition for Growth Summit

Commitment summit/year	Commitment Type		Commitment Description
London 2013 Tokyo 2021	Impact Commitments	Health	Making nutrition integral to UHC because investing in nutrition services as part of health systems can lead to greater wellbeing and more equitable development.
	Financial Commitments	Food	Building food systems that promote healthy diets and nutrition, ensure livelihoods of producers, and that are climate-smart because the way the world produces and consumes foods impacts people and planet.
	Policy Commitments	Resilience	Effectively addressing malnutrition in fragile and conflict-affected contexts because people impacted by violence and instability are especially vulnerable to malnutrition and young children in these settings need special attention.
	Program Commitments	Data	Promoting data-driven accountability because better data, measurement, and accountability is essential to facilitate more effective commitments to nutrition and to drive equitable progress to leave no one behind.
		Financing	Securing significant increases in domestic financing and other, innovative financing are central to the Compact.



Yemen's Commitments to Nutrition at the N4G Summit 2013

Reported progress

Assessment

Financial commitments

LONDON 2013

1. Increase the resource allocation for nutrition and multi-sectoral involvement in the upcoming budgets.
2. Establish new budget lines in the Ministries of Health, Water and Environment, Food and Agriculture (including Fisheries) for nutrition programming.

1.1. SUN Yemen Secretariat is in communication with donors to support the implementation of the Yemen's Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (YMSNAP).

1.2. The Secretariat is also working with a task-force team from the national NGOs to mobilize resources for the implementation of YMSNAP.

2. The Secretariat is working with the sectoral teams to support including nutrition interventions and coordination mechanisms with the stakeholders, donors and national NGOs within the ministries.

ON COURSE

Basis of assessment

At least half of the individual commitment components are assessed to be on course.

Policy commitments

LONDON 2013

1. Finalize national SUN plan.
2. Establish realistic targets for reducing stunting, wasting, food diversity, and food consumption.
3. Publish our spending on nutrition on the SUN movement website.

1. SUN Yemen Secretariat finalized the Yemen's Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (YMSNAP) in April 2020

2. The Secretariat is currently working with the UN agencies to develop the National Plan for Child Wasting (within the Global Action Plan for Child Wasting - GAP)

3. The Secretariat participated in the Budget Analysis Exercise for 2021.

REACHED

COMMITMENT

Basis of assessment

Reported progress in previous Global Nutrition Reports indicates that commitment has been achieved.

Program commitments

LONDON 2013

1. Increase human resources for nutrition by 10%–20%.
2. Develop a real-time monitoring system to monitor the outcomes.

1. SUN Yemen Secretariat in partnership with National NGO and funded by UNICEF implemented Risk Communication training and capacity building workshops for the governmental and business sectors on nutrition.

2. The Secretariat has finalized the requirement of the inception phase for the Yemen's Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan (YMSNAP), including the M&E reporting and monitoring tools.

ON COURSE

Basis of assessment

At least half of the individual commitment components are assessed to be on course

Yemen's Commitments to Nutrition (2021-2030) at the N4G Summit 2021



The SUN Yemen Secretariat worked to communicate with the organizing team of the Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021, and the secretariat confirmed Yemen's participation in the Summit and made all requirements for participation so that Yemen would be among the countries benefiting from donors funding, technical support and exchange of experiences.

In order to prepare Yemen's commitments, The SUN Yemen held meetings with the technical team from sectors and specialists from United Nations agencies (UNICEF, WFP, WHO, FAO, and UNHCR) to review Yemen's commitments made at the N4G Summit in London 2013, assess them and see to what extent those commitments have been achieved, and then discuss Yemen's commitments to the N4G Summit Tokyo 2021, in terms of what the Yemeni government will commit to, and seeks to achieve it by 2030 within the framework of the global commitments of the countries at the Summit as well as what the United Nations agencies commit to achieve as part of the effective partnership to achieve this with the support of the government. A package of commitments was made and presented at the N4G Summit Tokyo 2021.

Commitment 1

Mainstream nutrition into ESP to achieve UHC

By 2030, the Government of Yemen (GoY) commits to embedding nutrition actions into the National UHC directions towards ensuring accessibility, affordability, and availability of essential health and nutrition service package (ESP). A national Plan of Action will determine the responsibilities across all health systems' components by operationalizing an essential service package nationwide. This will be achieved through:

1. Improve infant and young child feeding by increasing exclusive breastfeeding practices by 30% for infants under 6 months.
2. Increasing Minimum Acceptable diet of children 6 - 23 months by 20%
3. Integrating Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) through EPI platforms
4. Scaling up nutrition interventions for adolescent girls (including Iron Folate supplementation)
5. Scaling up maternal Health and Nutrition services for Pregnant and Lactating (including Iron Folate supplementation)
6. Scaling up community-based health and nutrition interventions through Community Health and Nutrition Volunteers (CHNVs)

Commitment 2

Linkages with other Sectors to deliver the ESP

By 2030, the government of Yemen (GoY) commits to strengthen systems to deliver the ESP towards achieving UHC and for better nutrition through enhancing the capacity of agriculture, fisheries, education, health, industry, nutrition social policy and WASH sectors at national and sub-national level to deliver nutrition actions through the ESP.

1. This will be achieved by developing and operationalising a comprehensive capacity development plan for all relevant sectors;
2. supporting key nutrition sensitive activities to be aligned with relevant sector plans in line with the ESP, the national nutrition strategy 2022-2030 and the Yemen Action Plan on Wasting (YAP);
3. This will involve HR skills building in nutrition, development of technical guidance, provision of necessary equipment and essential drugs, strengthening supply chain .

Commitment 3**Legal environment for nutrition within the ESP**

By 2030, the GoY commits to strengthening the policy and regulatory environment for nutrition within UHC. The regulatory and legislative frameworks will support the achievement of UHC (IYCF, undernutrition leading to nutritional deficiencies, underweight, wasting, stunting and/or micronutrition deficiencies, and overnutrition leading to overweight, obesity and/or diet-related NCDs) .

1. This will be achieved by reviewing the current situation and adopting an enabling policies and regulations

Commitment 4**Finance agriculture, fisheries and food systems**

By 2030, the government of Yemen commits to develop innovating financial avenues for food systems including agriculture (Crop and livestock), fisheries, food safety and food systems research development and nutrition improvement for healthy eating consumption patterns. This will be achieved by:

1. Investments at national and subnational levels;
2. Develop, implement and finance national plans, strategies/policies which are risk informed, conflict sensitive and correspondingly adaptive.

Commitment 5**Support game changers to enhance food systems**

By 2030, the government of Yemen, commits to build and strengthen the capacity of all stakeholders to enhance the food systems, through :

1. Developing and strengthening national and subnational coordination mechanisms for food systems platforms and stakeholder ;
2. Support value chain addition to local agricultural products such as Horticulture, Dairy, Cereals, Fisheries etc
3. Enhance and adopt nutrition-sensitive interventions to prevent child malnutrition especially to reduce stunting levels ;
4. Build capacities of national codex programmes/structures and enhance their participation globally to codex alimentarius meeting and through addressing the weaknesses or gaps; develop national food standards based on codex texts as appropriate; a have well-functioning Codex Contact Point. Develop and operationalize food safety multisectoral action plan in the health sector
5. A joint multi-sector needs analysis before, during and after a humanitarian response and to include wider measures of nutrition need and progress. These measures may include and not limited to:
 - commitments to measuring minimum dietary diversity for women and girls; and
 - measures to assess the impact of seasonal food availability patterns on infant and young child feeding practices and household dietary diversity .
6. Strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national staff and community to address all forms of malnutrition.

Commitment 6**Food laws and legislations on food and nutrition**

By 2030, the government of Yemen, commits to build on the situation analysis on laws, policies, legislation and regulations related to food and nutrition to develop or revise based on updated global recommendations Yemen food and nutrition laws, policies and regulation; assure the implementation and enforcement by:

1. Strengthening existing national institutions or platforms of coordination for monitoring food laws and legislation and regulation implementation and assuring enforcement.

Commitment 7**Operationize Multi Sectoral Nutrition Plans**

By 2025, the government of Yemen commits to operationalising Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plans for better nutrition outcomes. This will be achieved through advocacy and enhanced coordination with the various sectors through implementation of a multi-sectoral accountability framework. The Yemen's Multi-Sectoral Action Plan (MSNAP) and the Action Plan for prevention of child wasting (YAP):

1. Will be coordinated by national authorities with support of UNICEF and Nutrition Cluster.

Commitment 8**Humanitarian-development-peace Nexus**

By 2025, the government of Yemen commits to strengthen the transition between humanitarian and development programming across sectors for better nutrition, including increased investment in preparedness and recovery. Led by the government authorities this will be achieved through enhanced coordination between humanitarian and development actors, while being sensitive to the local context. This will include

1. Jointly updating, implementing and financing national nutrition plans and policies ;
2. Jointly agreed coordination and oversight mechanisms, with clearly defined linkages and clear lines of accountability to bridge the humanitarian-development-peace divide ;
3. Sectoral ministries with support of UN agencies and Nutrition cluster to develop and strengthen existing national and subnational coordination mechanisms, and link to other platforms and stakeholders, including Scaling Up Nutrition networks (SUN Business Network (SBN) SUN Civil Society Alliances (SCAs)) .
4. enhance the localization of humanitarian actions between the donors, UN, INGOs, NNGOs and government in Yemen

Commitment 9**Functional Scaling Up Nutrition Networks**

By 2025, the government of Yemen commits to establish and strengthen the national and subnational coordination mechanisms, and link to other platforms and stakeholders through:

1. Establishing the Scaling Up Nutrition networks SUN Business Network (SBN).
2. Establishing the Scaling Up Nutrition networks SUN Civil Society Alliances (SCAs).

Commitment 10**Nutrition information system**

By 2030, the Government of Yemen commits to strengthen the national nutrition information system, this includes surveys, routine monitoring and surveillance, exploring opportunities for enhanced digitalization of data; evaluations; and strengthening human resource capacity. The government will also work towards harmonizing nutrition data and information systems across sectors, and reflecting standards and core indicators that are aligned with the National Nutrition Strategy; as well as developing a multi-sectoral National Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Framework through strengthening multi-sector nutrition information, building multi-sectoral indicators/ data, the Nutrition M&E accountability framework .

**Progress**

The secretariat worked with the concerned sectors and United Nations organizations to identify these commitments and their requirements, and the sectors and counterpart organizations will work to implement these activities, while the secretariat will work to follow up the level of implementation and assess progress in implementing the activities, in addition to mobilizing more resources from donors to implement these commitments, which will achieve achievements concrete nationwide.

Third: Partnership between the (SUN) and (GAVI)

Effectiveness of Partnership at the Nutrition for Growth Summit

In order to enhance and learn from cumulative experiences, several hypothetical discussions were held on countries' experiences in nutrition integration and Immunization by participating in the Nutrition for Growth Summit side event. The event prepared by the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) entitled "Equity from Birth: An integrated Approach to Immunization and Nutrition Policy Brief to Universal Health Coverage" held by default on October 30th. The event aimed to highlight many links between immunization and nutrition; this shows how to reach the goals of universal health coverage and Nutrition for Growth N4G.

Through this event, several countries and international stakeholders made initial commitments on immunization, nutrition and universal health coverage.

Yemen, One of the Countries Targeted of the Partnership

On her part, the Coordinating Secretariat for SUN Yemen continued with the Movement's office Geneva to make Yemen as one of the target countries of this partnership. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Movement's Coordinator, Ms. Gerda was contacted about Yemen's participation in the summit. The Movement Coordinator encouraged Yemen's participation and emphasized the importance of targeting Yemen through the activities of this partnership.

The team in charge of preparing for the partnership between the Movement and the Vaccine Alliance communicated with the secretariat team regarding preparations for Yemen's participation by providing an outline of the nature of Yemen's results in achieve this partnership between nutrition and immunization interventions in Yemen. As a result, Yemen has participated in the partnership and has been included as one of the beneficiary countries.

The secretariat team worked to coordinate with the Ministry of Public Health and Population, and support Yemen's participation in the summit.

The primary health care sector participated in the inauguration event because of the importance of this partnership in our country. Dr. Ali Al-Walidi explained that the health sector in Yemen suffers from the effects of conflict and war, with the child mortality rate in Yemen reaching 58.4 deaths per 1,000 live births., and most of these deaths are related to preventable causes. While nearly half of children suffer from chronic malnutrition and 16% from acute malnutrition, between one-third and a half of children do not receive most vaccines such as measles. In addition to the importance of access to health care for these children, this requires significant investments in the health system in our country, and through the combination of immunization, nutrition and possibly other interventions at the community level. Through joint campaigns, the Ministry of Health will have the potential to achieve cost-effectiveness, reduce expenditures, reduce the overall burden on health workers and, most importantly, significantly increase care, protection coverage and expand access to health services. The Ministry of Health can have an impact if it detects malnutrition in children at risk early on through joint campaigns. The Ministry is able to provide them with appropriate treatment and reduce the likelihood of their death or suffering. The joint approach complements initiatives to strengthen health systems, to expand access to health services at the community level.

Steps Yemen Can Take to Help Integrate into the Partnership

Learning from the experiences of other countries is a very important cognitive and technical resource. It will support Yemen in developing policies and technical guidelines to be deployed in pilot areas and then expand their scope and achieve effective integration. The steps can be summarized as follows:

- ◆ Reviewing the document of lessons learned from other countries in this regard.
- ◆ Providing the technical support by the (SUN), (GAVI), (WHO) and UNICEF, through technical recommendations and mapping of countries' positions on this issue,
- ◆ Receiving the donor support for the operation of pilot projects and monitoring of results.

Integrative Activities of the Immunization Program in which Primary Health Care Programs, Including the Nutrition Program in Yemen, are Involved:

1. Integrative conductive;
2. Integrative supervision;
3. Joint assessment of health facilities;
4. Detailed planning of centers and units;
5. Integrative training for health staff.

Activities to be discussed:

1. Raising awareness of the importance of immunization for mothers and children within the education and awareness-raising activities of the nutrition program;
2. Expanding the provision of integrated care services in the third population with temporary points and supporting them with devices and operational cost;
3. Periodic integrative supervision monthly.

Furth: Yemen's Participation in the Nutrition Information Systems

Information systems are essential for reporting changes and trends over a period in a given area for appropriate planning and guidance of interventions. The dissemination of information from properly implemented control information systems is important for nutrition program planning and policy development. The implementation of nutrition programs, tracking of nutritional intervention and the provision of reliable estimates of actual needs in such a complex situation require a reliable cost impact system and a consistent nutritional information system to identify potential program gaps and monitor trends in malnutrition across the country.



Nutrition Information Systems

NIS
NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SUN Yemen is recognize the importance of timely and quality data with an adequate level of disaggregation to guide country decision making and allocation of resources for nutrition. And hence we appreciate the need to strengthen the nutrition information systems (NIS), to enhance quality and utilization of nutrition data to better support policy development, program design and monitoring.

The government of Yemen commits to strengthen the national nutrition information system, including surveys, routine monitoring and surveillance, data quality & data use, including exploring opportunities for enhanced digitalization of data; evaluations and human resource capacity. The Government of Yemen also commits to harmonize nutrition data and information systems across sectors and partners, and to reflect standards and core indicators that are aligned with the National Nutrition Strategy; and to develop a National Nutrition Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Framework.

With regard to the Multispectral Information System, Yemen is seeking to work on the Nutrition Information System to enhance the accessibility, availability and use of multispectral food and nutrition data.

- ◆ A working group on Nutrition Information Systems in Yemen was established in 2021 as a sub-group of the Global Working Group on Nutrition Information Systems (NIS), as part of the Technical Working Groups of the General National Conference, to provide technical support to the country team in Yemen on (NIS). The working group meets every two weeks via electronic media since its establishment.
- ◆ A two-day virtual workshop was organized for the task force in July 2021 to develop a framework for monitoring nutrition risks, and monitoring early warning indicators at the area level as part of nutrition monitoring to enrich timely work.
- ◆ During the year 2021, the SUN participated in the review of nutrition information systems, in which the Ministry of Public Health and Population, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organization partners and the donor community participated.

Thus, the SUN contributed to the definition of what our country is doing in this regard through Yemen's participation in the upcoming event of the N4G Summit in December 2021 in Japan.

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SCALING UP NUTRITION SECRETARIAT

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