



Sensitization of Stakeholders on REACH Framework

Review of M&E Framework and Dashboard for Nutrition Action Implementation Tracking in Zimbabwe

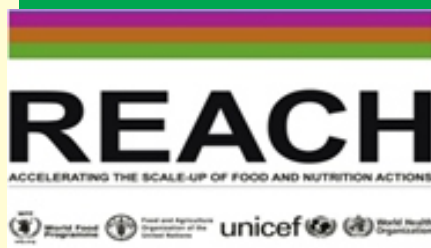


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1. Introduction

The Renewed Efforts against Child Hunger and undernutrition (REACH) is a service of the United Nations Network (UNN) in support of national nutrition governance efforts, Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) processes and SUN platforms (including UNN). The UN inter-agency partnership fosters multi-sectoral approaches in addressing malnutrition. Figure 1 below shows the global coverage. REACH support came through the UN Network at the request of the Government of Zimbabwe. Consultations, with support of the Regional REACH facilitator (February) were held. The National REACH facilitator was recruited in April 2017. The Chair of the UN Network provides oversight to ensure that REACH support and activities implemented in accordance with the plan. Implementation of activities is both the responsibility of FNC and the UN agencies (through the UN Network).

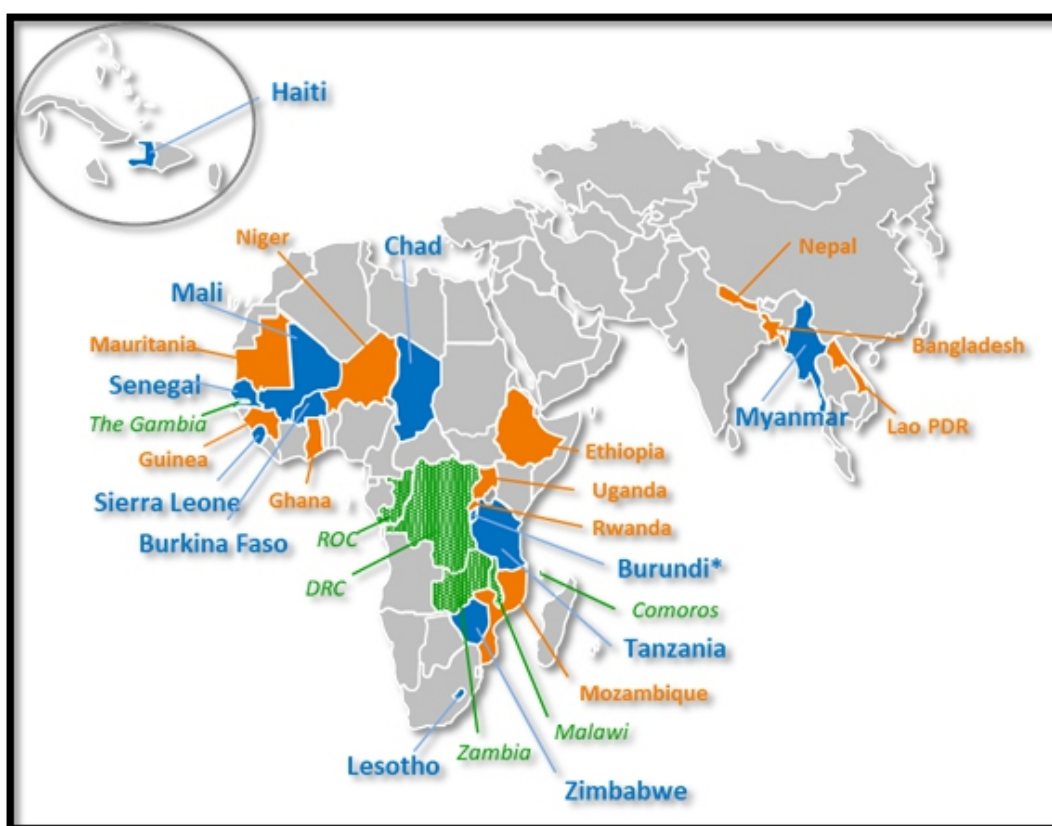


Figure 1 Global Coverage of REACH

2. REACH Key outcomes and actions

There are five outcomes. These are:

1. Increased awareness of the causes of malnutrition and potential solutions.
2. Strengthened and resourced national nutrition policies and programmes.
3. Increased human and institutional capacity to support the scaling up of nutrition actions at all levels.
4. Increased efficiency and accountability of national efforts (2018).
5. Harmonized and coordinated UN nutrition efforts.

The key action matrix and progress to date is shown in Annex 2. As part of the steps towards conducting an overview of data sources and existing information systems of relevance to nutrition and identify their capacity to track selected nutrition indicators, DFNSCs were sensitized on monitoring and evaluation consultancy (Discussed under Section 3).

3. Review of Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Dashboard for Nutrition Action Implementation Tracking in Zimbabwe

A consultant was engaged to assist FNC to facilitate a consultative process to review and operationalise the National Nutrition Strategy M&E framework and dashboards to support implementation tracking in Zimbabwe. Figure 2 shows the programme of works.

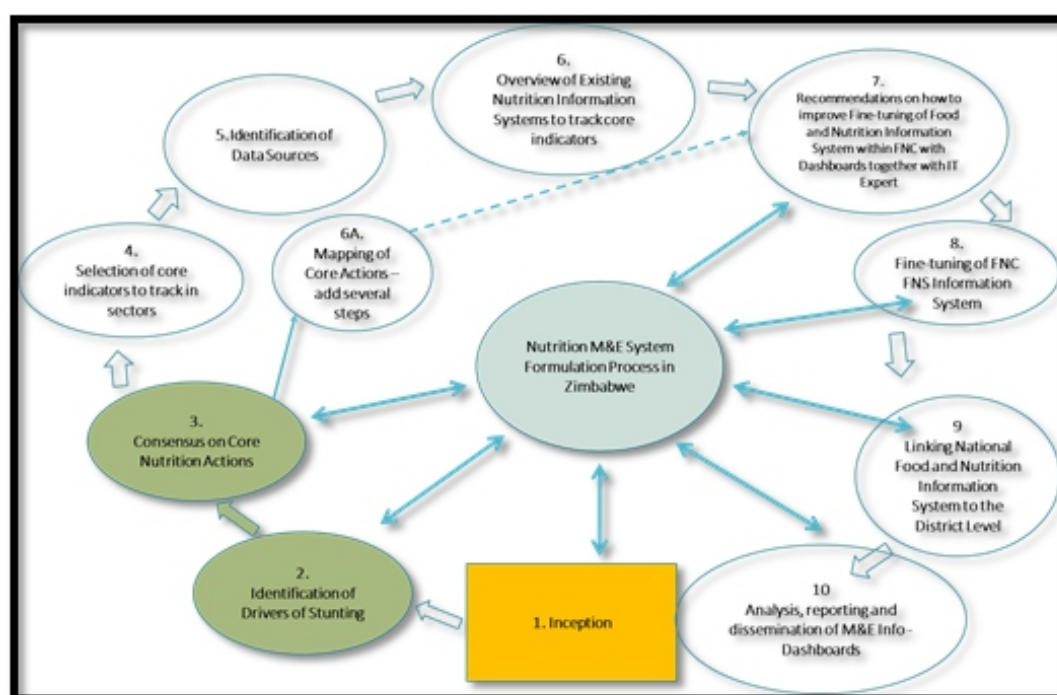


Figure 2 Programme of works for consultative process

3.1 Overview of the process

During the Inception Phase, the Consultant was briefed by FNC, REACH Secretariat and the UN Network, and he prepared materials for the Launch Workshop to be held on 29 August. Step 2 consists of the background analysis of the drivers of stunting which FNC is carrying out to inform the selection of Core Nutrition Actions and this process will be facilitated by the REACH Country Facilitator for Zimbabwe. Once these Core Nutrition Actions are selected, they will be discussed with stakeholders during the planned Launch Workshop in order to ensure consensus around the Core Nutrition Actions (Step 3).

Based on the selected Core Nutrition Actions, the M&E Consultant will facilitate selection of a minimum set of indicators for each Core Nutrition Action and stakeholder discussion and consensus on these as well (Step 4). The selection will be done prior to the Launch Workshop and discussion will be in the workshop. The indicators will be selected in such a way that they track actions and the development results in terms of improvement in nutritional status of the population groups targeted by the Core Nutrition Actions. Once the indicators are agreed on, discussions will be facilitated on data sources and agreement will be reached on the most direct, cost-effective and reliable way of obtaining data to update the indicators and analyze the trends (Step 5). Discussion on the data sources will take place during the Launch Workshop.

Following stakeholder agreement on the Core Nutrition Actions, the SUN PMT Tool will be adapted and used to map stakeholders implementing Core Nutrition Actions at district level as well as coverage of the Core Nutrition Actions in six districts selected from an initial set of three pilot provinces, Manicaland, Masvingo and Mashonaland Central (Step 6A). In each province, 2 districts will be selected for the mapping exercise. In Manicaland and Masvingo Provinces, the districts that are currently participating in the Multi-Sectoral Community Based Model to Food and Nutrition Security for Stunting Reduction (MSCBM) and near real-time monitoring of nutrition will be automatically selected for the mapping exercise. The mapping exercise will be conducted by a core team selected at national level comprising of M&E experts in the main sector ministries and NGOs involved in nutrition as well as FNC (as coordinator) and the UN Network (as technical support). A representative of the donor groups investing in nutrition programmes will be invited to participate in the Core Team. The M&E Consultant will provide technical leadership of the Core Team as a Facilitator, while FNC will chair the meetings of the Core Team.



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The Core Team will be trained at a central location (and the 4 participating MSCBM districts in Manicaland and Masvingo will be invited to send representatives that will join an expanded Core Team). After the training, the expanded Core Team will conduct the mapping exercise in Mutasa District, to gain experience and harmonize approaches, before rolling out the exercise to the remaining five selected districts. The mapping exercise will culminate in a mapping findings report and stakeholder workshop to discuss who is doing what where and gaps in coverage of Core Nutrition Actions.

Following consensus on data sources for the minimum set of indicators to track the Core Nutrition Actions, an overview of nutrition information systems will be carried out by the M&E Consultant (with support from a research assistant) and this process will run parallel to the Mapping Exercise. The nutrition information systems overview started by the development of an information systems capacity assessment tool, being guided by some work done by the UN Network on this aspect. The M&E Consultant is building on this work already done by the UN Network which has developed guidelines for such assessments. The objective of this exercise is to identify what exists, gaps in information systems for tracking Core Nutrition Actions and user needs in relation to data, analyzed information, accessibility of nutrition information and the way information is packaged, or visualized so as to inform improvements in the design of the national nutrition information systems in general, but more specifically the information system and dashboards managed and hosted by FNC.

Both the Mapping Exercise and the Overview of the Nutrition Information Systems will be expected to come up with recommendations on how the FNC information system for nutrition security can be enhanced (Step 8), and the recommendations will inform the work of IT Expert(s) who will be engaged by FNC (with support from the UN Network) to work on user needs, system specifications and further development/refinement of the web-based tool that will improve the FNC nutrition information system and dashboards (Step 8).

Once the national nutrition information system has been refined, it will be piloted in the 4 MSCBM districts in Manicaland and Masvingo as a starting point before eventual roll-out country-wide. The M&E Consultant will provide an orientation to prior-identified district nutrition M&E focal points who are also participating in the MSCBM and NRTM activities. Then the districts will be supported to collect information required to populate the web-based tool at FNC which will then produce the analysis automatically and visualize the results through the dashboard(s) (Step 9).

The final step of the process (Step 10) will involve the production of the first National Nutrition Status Report and convening of a national dissemination workshop to discuss the report. Stakeholders will discuss and agree on utility, dissemination strategy and the frequency with which it must be produced thereafter.

3.2 Information Systems available on National Nutrition Strategy

DFNSCs were taken through a tool for enumeration of information systems that are available for tracking progress on NNS goals (see Annex 3). Each stakeholder was requested to choose a National Nutrition Strategy Goal(s) most relevant to the work of his/her organisation. Then to list information systems that are tracking nutrition actions and outcomes. This information will assist the M&E Consultant in mapping the information systems present at district level and conduct a SWOT analysis of these systems.

4. Next Steps

The next step is for DFNSCs to convene a one-day meeting, supported by the Provincial Food and Nutrition Security Committee (PFNSC) and submit outputs to FNC by the 31st of August 2017. The major outputs expected from these meetings are:

- A report on Drivers of stunting identified during the MSCBM baseline survey.
- An atlas/database of who is doing what where with regards to food and nutrition interventions.
- An updated database of Food and Nutrition stakeholders.
- Completed tool on Information Systems available to track progress on National Nutrition Strategy goals.

Annex 1: Attendance List

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Annex 2 Tool for Information Systems on NNS

Information Systems for Tracking Nutrition Actions and Nutrition Achievements of National Nutrition Strategy Goals

District: _____

Organisation: _____

No.	Goals	Information Systems Available at District Level
G1	Coverage of health and community nutrition services for adolescents increased to 50% by 2018	
G2	Standard maternal health and nutrition package scaled up to 90% coverage	
G3	50% of women of reproductive age have positive support from spouses and communities for decisions on maternal health, nutrition, healthy lifestyles and safe living environment by 2018	
G4	All health institutions provide the standard IYCF package (BMFHI, BF, CF, multiple micronutrient supplementation and fortification, dietary diversification, disease prevention and management, nutrition interventions in emergencies, feeding behaviours and stimulation, PMTCT, WASH, IMAM) by 2018	
G5	Community IYCF counselling package increased from 44% to 100% of districts and in at least 90% of the wards by 2018	
G6	Coverage of growth monitoring and promotion for under-fives increased from 2 districts to 20 districts by 2016 and to 40 districts by 2018 and covering 5 wards per district ¹	
G7	To increase the proportion of adult population practicing at least one or a combination of the top 5 healthy lifestyles (in relation to consumption of alcohol, fats, and salts; tobacco use, and physical activity) to 40% by 2018	
G8	Proportion of health facilities (central, provincial, mission and district hospitals) providing quality nutrition services for communicable (schistosomiasis, HIV, malaria, soil transmitted helminthes) and non-communicable diseases increased to 75% by 2018	

¹ Although growth monitoring promotion is not an evidenced intervention of infant and young child nutrition it is considered necessary for informing programming such as nutrition counselling of mothers and caregivers.

G9	30% of institutions adopt national food service and nutrition guidelines by 2018	
G10	Timely availability of relevant nutrition information that incorporates disaster risk reduction at all levels adequate for disaster preparedness planning and nutrition programming	
G11	80% of women of reproductive age have the capacity to safely provide for their food, health and nutrition security using appropriate technologies by 2018	
G12	Coverage of health and community nutrition services for school children increased to 50% by 2018	
G13	All provinces and districts have food and nutrition security committees that are fully discharging their terms of reference by 2014, 50% of ward level committees functioning by 2018	
G14	To increase the proportion of households consuming safe and acceptable diets all year round to at least 80% by 2018	
G15	Scale up evidence-based nutrition sensitive interventions in social protection services to 80% coverage by 2018	
G16	At least 50% of community based health workers promote WASH related behaviour change whilst integrating nutrition messaging by 2018	
G17	By 2018 ensure that at least 50% of imported and locally produced foods are evaluated for safety	

Exercise (10 minutes):

1. Choose a Goal(s) most relevant to the work of your organisation.
2. List information systems that are tracking nutrition actions and outcomes.



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