

SUN Movement Multi-Partner Trust Fund



PROGRAMME¹ QUARTERLY PROGRESS UPDATE

as of Quarter no1 of Year 2014: January to March 2014

Submitted: 1st May 2014

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|---|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Participating UN Organization: |  World Food Programme wfp.org | | | | |
| Implementing Partner(s): | Concern Worldwide Malawi | | | | |
| Programme Number: | #00084721 SUN 02/MWI/004 “Civil Society” | | | | |
| Programme Title: | “Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Scaling UP Nutrition in Malawi” | | | | |
| Total Approved Programme Budget: | US\$ 428,000 | | | | |
| Location: | Malawi | | | | |
| MC Approval Date: | 28 th August 2012 | | | | |
| Programme Duration: | 3 years | Starting Date: | 1 st May 2013 | Completion Date: | 31 st December 2015 |
| Funds Committed: | US\$ 400,000 project US\$ 28,000 ISC | | | Percentage of Approved: | 100% |
| Funds Disbursed: | US\$ 103,183 project | | | Percentage of Approved: | 26% |
| Expected Programme Duration: | 3 years | Forecast Final Date: | 30 April 2016 | Delay (Months): | 4 months |

| Outcomes: | Achievements/Results: | Percentage of planned: |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Outcome 1.1. CSO alliance established and effective in advocacy efforts</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSONA monthly National nutrition platforms have now become a routine for CSONA. Three platform meetings were held in the last quarter that saw a maximum of 17 members attending. • CSONA participated in the National Nutrition Committee (NNC), the SUN taskforce meeting and was part of the SUN Networking Country Call together with Department of Nutrition HIV/AIDS (DNHA) and Development partners. • Coordinated CSOs in becoming members of the revised nutrition Technical working groups (TWG) • CSONA participated in the review of the National Nutrition Policy and the drafting of the Nutrition Strategic Plan • Through its member Progressio, CSONA plans to have a Communications and Advocacy Specialist placed at its secretariat in May 2014. • Membership of CSONA continues to grow with a current 27 membership. • CSONA continues to participate and provide updates at the Donor Nutrition group. • CSONA attended a Media Skills training workshop organized by Results through the Global Health Advocacy Initiative in Zambia • CSONA attended the Scaling-Up Nutrition district launch in Ntchisi | <p>100% of platform meeting held and engagement on the multi-sectoral platforms</p> |
| <p>Outcome 2.1 Increased resource allocation and commitment to nutrition programmes through effective public awareness</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN) CSONA participated in the CSO National Budget Consultation meeting. • CSONA is organizing a Global day of Action (GDA) to scale-up its advocacy activities towards nutrition • CSONA has a secretariat representative in the SUN National Core Team. • CSONA was part of the team that was type setting the Micronutrient strategy • CSONA participated in a national public radio debate for Presidential running mates and voiced their key nutrition asks | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Outcome 3.1 Households engage in aligned interventions that result in uptake of best practices</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Nutrition Platforms have been established in Mchinji district. The platform currently has 18 members of which 10 are local Community-based Organizations (CBOs). • Through the GDA CSONA is planning an open day event which is being coordinated by the district nutrition platform members and several members at the national level. | <p>N/A</p> |

Qualitative achievements against outcomes and results:

Civil society Organization Nutrition Alliance Nutrition Platforms

- CSONA's membership continues to rise. In the last quarter the membership rose from 22 to 27 members (See Annex A). This is excluding membership at district level which includes 10 Community-Based organizations committee members which we are in the process of working out the landscape. New membership includes National Smallholder Farmers Association of Malawi (NASFAM) an independent smallholder-owned membership organization and company, Valid Nutrition, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), African Institute of Corporate Citizenship (AICC) aimed at contributing to the promotion of private sector role in development and Food And Nutrition Assistance project (FANTA).
- Highlights from the Platform meetings
 - Progressio, one of the Alliance members made a presentation on its activities as well as the role in CSONA. During the presentation, Progressio announced that it is willing to place a Communication & Advocacy officer in CSONA to help build the capacity of the secretariat as well as its members if CSONA could cost share for the position. The members strongly support this initiative recognising that the advocacy is a core element of CSONA's work and an area that needs strengthening . Since CSONA is in the process of doing a budget revision to reflect the changing needs of the Alliance, there was a consensus that we should support this initiative pending approval from MTPF. The secretariat will proceed with finalizing the working modalities and contracts to have the officer commence his/her duties in May pending approval from the MPTF.
 - In respect of the 2014 Malawi National Tripartite election, CSONA formed a taskforce that is to develop an advocacy election strategy towards the election as well as preparation of the Global Day of Action (GDA). Please find the TORs for the GDA and Election Work plan in Annex B). In line with the activities that have been lined up for the Malawi Tripartite elections, CSONA was advised by its members to carry out a risk assessment in order to identify possible risks of advocacy during the elections.
- Media Skills Training:
 - The Project Manager attended a media skills training workshop for nutritionist in Lusaka Zambia from 17th to 21st March 2013. The training was hosted by ACTION, a global health advocacy partnership with its Secretariat housed in RESULTS Educational Fund. The training had participants from Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda. The four day workshop aimed to increase the capacity of advocates to be more powerful in sparking interest when engaging with media as a way of advocating for nutrition in Africa. The course involved participatory exercises that covered aspects of interview techniques, message development and delivery.
 - Practical exercises involved real life situations on how to deliver a tailored pitch to different key stakeholders in convincing them to take on nutrition as a priority. Sessions of message development and deliver used an EPIC (Engage, Stating the problem, Inform, Call to action) format. The EPIC format was used throughout the television and video interviews. Throughout the training voice and video recordings of trainees recorded for feedback purposes. On the last day of the training, a press conference were different journalists from different media house were invited. Each trainee had to make a speech related to the problem of malnutrition in their country based on the EPIC format. The workshop was a huge success and demonstrated the considerable progress each of the participants made as they moved from one session to the other and a variety of media skills were acquired. These skills have been put to good use since the programme manager's return.
 - The visit in Zambia provided an opportunity for CSONA to network with the Zambia CSO SUN alliance. A number of meetings were held which allowed cross learning between the

two Alliances. With the upcoming tripartite elections, Zambia was able to provide valuable input to support the development of our election advocacy strategy

Advocacy initiatives

- Global day of action: The taskforce agreed to prioritize a position paper, production of IEC materials, key asks & pledge forms, production of a jingle and theme song, open day event and press conference as its main activities during the GDA and the tripartite elections. Members' clarified their call to action in terms of the position paper as well the key messages during the GDA. Several members expressed interest in contributing to certain activities.
- National Budget consultation meeting: Through networking with the Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN), CSONA participated in the Civil Society National Budget Consultation Advocacy Meeting on 27th March 2014 which was funded by CEPA. The meeting had representatives from civil society, sectorial ministries, development partners, district councils and area development committee leaders. From the presentations that were made, CSONA realized that nutrition was being sidelined and treated as a health issue. In essence CSONA brought to the table the need to analyze nutrition separately and how it impacts on productivity and economic health as well as honoring the commitments that were made at the Nutrition for Growth Summit. As a way forward, MEJN made a commitment to involve CSONA in its upcoming budget consultation meetings and to make sure that nutrition is included. Follow-up meetings have been organized to explore the relationship further.

Engagement within other stakeholders and platforms

- CSONA continues to participate and provide updates on the multi-sectoral platforms. In the last quarter CSONA was part of the NNC, SUN Taskforce, DoNuts and SUN country call (which included the DNHA as the focal point, Development partners and CSONA)
- CSONA was invited and attended the launch of the SUN 1000 special days' initiative district launch that was organized by WFP with World vision as an implementing partner. The function was attended by representatives from various sectors including donors, CSOs as well as government e.g. CIFF, EU, UNICEF, MoAFs, MoH, DNHA etc. Concern country director, PSO-CSONA and Project Officer-CSONA also had the privilege of attending the same. The principal secretary OPC DNHA (Mrs. E. Mkawa) also made her presence. The Guest of honour at this function was the deputy Minister of Agriculture, Honorable Chilapondwa. Highlights of the meeting include the following. The PS emphasizes government commitment to scaling up nutrition of particular interest was the establishment of National Sun advisory board by the state president which comprises various traditional authorities. She said this would see to it that nutrition services are demand driven.

Dialogue and engagement with government

- Nutrition TWG: The DNHA organized TWG meeting whose aim was to review the TORs of the different technical working groups. The premise to review the TWG came about because the TWG were not functioning and were not meeting to discuss nutrition issues at hand. After the 2 day meeting, the 7 TWG were condensed into 5 TWG of which CSONA is a member of each one. CSONA was given the responsibility of coordinating with the different TWGs and identifying which CSO members will represent CSONA at which TWG. Fifteen of our 22 members responded and offered to represent CSOAN.
- Micronutrient Strategy type setting: CSONA was part of the team to type set the Micronutrient Strategy Type setting. DNHA is yet to set a date as to when the strategy will be reviewed.

Establishment of District Nutrition platforms

- Mchinji district nutrition platform: A district nutrition platform has been established in one of the districts. Currently the platform is initiating a pre-mapping exercise and to map out the way forward. The platforms had an attendance of 32 grassroots organization in mapping de-briefing exercise. It was

agreed that World Vision Intentional and Maimwana, a local CBO (as the chairs of the platform) will arrange for the Mchinji CSO network to meet to conduct the exercise of grouping members and selection of contact persons for thematic groups. Considering the vast number of CBOs and FBOs, members agreed to set up a committee for the CBOs and FBOs which was to represent them at the district nutrition platform. CSONA is to have a meeting with selected committee to discuss operation modalities/TORs of the nutrition committee and to develop TORs for the nutrition committee at T/A level

Nutrition-relevant legislation and policies

- Review of the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan: The alliance participated and gave input in the National Nutrition Policy & Strategy that was organized by the Department of Nutrition and HIV/AIDS from the 27th -30th January 2014. Specific CSO depending on their capacity were placed in working group sessions that were developed based on the 7 policy priority areas. The review had 6 CSONA members who participated together with the secretariat. The alliance made sure that crucial activities to do with advocacy and lobbying specifically highlight that CSONA will take a leading role. Currently the consultants are consolidating the discussions of the review workshop.

Challenges

- Nutrition sensitive issues and mainstreaming not fully understood. This results in membership being inclined to organizations that are solely doing nutrition. CSONA hopes to reinvigorate through its awareness campaigns
- With the new revised Daily Sustenance allowance, most of the CSONA members are facing challenges in implementation of project activities because they do not offer allowances. As for CSONA, district nutrition platforms are sometimes not given a priority.
- Transport not readily available – Concern Worldwide is supporting CSONA with transport, they do not have a separate vehicle that is allocated to CSONA so CSONA needs to share transport with other Concern projects. There are challenges with availability of a vehicle which confines CSONA in terms of fast tracking its activities especially during the peak of its project implementation. There is need for CSONA to access funding to procure its own vehicle and driver, to ensure continuity of activities.
- Ownership and commitment at district level for district nutrition members. There is over reliance of international NGOs to host meetings due to lack of resources
- Position Paper: Although producing a position paper during the election offers a window of opportunity for CSONA several of the members are afraid of the risks that this may have for their organizations because they do not want to be associated with politics according to their work policies. CSONA is trying its best to draft the position paper in a way that it is neutral and has a buy-in from most of its members.

Way forward

- Open day Event in Mchinji featuring CSONA members during the Global Day of Action in the first Week of May 2014.
- Conduct a Press Conference during the GDA that will focus on key elements of the Position Paper as well as calling to action Media houses to increase the coverage of nutrition issues in the press – May 2014
- Establishment of district nutrition platforms in coordination and collaboration with District Nutrition Coordination Committees in 3 more districts by June 2014
- Strategic Planning meeting for CSONA by June 2014
- Secure pledges from Presidential, Parliamentarian and Councillor candidates
- Participate in public debates regarding the upcoming elections to keep nutrition on the electoral agenda

**For more details of activities moving forward please refer to the annex B*

The term “programme” is used for projects, programmes and joint programmes.

ANNEX A

| CSO-SUN Alliance in Malawi membership (as of March 2014) | |
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| Name of the organisation | Organisation details |
| 1 Action Aid International | |
| 2 Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) | |
| 3 Africare | www.africare.org |
| 4 African Institute of Corporate Citizenship (AICC) | |
| 5 Care Malawi | www.care.org |
| 6 Catholic Relief Services (CRS) | |
| 7 Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) | www.cisanetmw.org |
| 8 Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) | www.clintonhealthaccess.org |
| 9 Concern Universal | www.concern-universal.org |
| 10 Concern Worldwide | www.concern.net |
| 11 Development Aid from People to People | |
| 12 Dignitas International | |
| 13 DREAM | |
| FANTA | |
| 14 Feed the Children | www.feedthechildren.org |
| 15 Gift of Givers | |
| 16 GOAL | www.goal.ie/malawi/166 |
| 17 International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) | |
| 18 Journalist Association Against AIDS | Page under construction |
| 19 Land O' Lakes | |
| 20 Mothers 2 Mothers | |
| 21 National Small holder Farmer Association of Malawi (NASFAM) | |
| 22 Progressio | www.progressio.org.uk |
| 23 Save the Children International | www.savethechildren.org |
| 24 Self Help | |
| 25 VALID Nutrition | |
| 26 World VisionInternational | www.sdn.org.mw/ingo/worldv.m.ht |
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Global Day of Action Terms of reference

Background

In 2013, civil society groups around the world organized coordinated actions as part of the Global Day of Action (GDA) ahead of the G8 summit in London, UK in June 2013. This coordinated action had the aim of showing global support for decisive action at the G8 to tackle food insecurity and malnutrition. The GDA 2013 showed civil society across the globe speaking out together for a more just and fair world, highlighting the power of coming together and making the case publicly strong action by leaders. It was the key part of ensuring such strong commitments were made by leaders from around the globe f Nutrition for growth event held on 8th June.

Opportunities

This year's GDA will be held from 1-8 May 2014 serving as a window of opportunity to exhibit pressure for action around nutrition at events happening both locally and globally. On the global level there is World Health Assembly in May where members of states will report on the global progress towards achieving the global nutrition targets that were agreed in May 2012, the African Union summit in June whose focus is on agriculture and family farming and finally the 7th of June which marks one year since global leaders (including) made commitments at the Nutrition for Growth Summit. Locally Malawi is holding its 2014 Tripartite elections on the 20th May which will be an opportunity to ensure that strong nutrition pledges are made by running candidates and to push for transparent and sound accountability frameworks to track progress and ensure that commitments are and will be delivered once candidates are voted into office.

Theme and Focus

With several opportunities existing on the global and within country, this year's GDA will be held from 1-8 May 2014 with the aim of extending the political momentum around nutrition and to increase the focus on sustainable and equitable scaling up of nutrition with emphasis on encouraging governments to implement policies in key sectors such as agriculture gender social protection education and WASH and child development that enable such actions. In essence the GDA will have the following objectives:

- Add continued, growing public pressure on national leaders and election candidates to continue their focus on nutrition, to deliver commitments made to the SUN movement and at Nutrition for growth Summit
- Increase the public and political profile for nutrition in the national press and political disclosures so as to increase awareness of national policies, the need for their implementation, and any potential changes needed to be made to them.

Key Messages for the Global Day of action

The global day of action will focus on the following 7 key messages;

1. Today because of Malnutrition in the critical 1000 days from pregnancy to age two, over three million women and children die every year. Investments to change this could transform economies, boosting economic growth by as much as 3-11%
2. Every woman and child being has the right to a fair chance at life. And all human beings have the right to adequate and nutritious foods; to be free from hunger. This right needs to be core to the efforts to improve food and nutrition security.
3. For many children that survive, malnutrition results in poor cognitive development, decreased productivity and life expectancy. Because malnutrition affects the poorest most, it is fundamental driver of poverty and inequality.
4. A year ago, governments made commitments to address this problem; fulfilling these will be essential to tackling malnutrition and mortality. Today we call on our leaders to priorities these issues, by telling the public what they have done to make a difference in the past year and by ensuring the financial commitments are in place to deliver on their promises.
5. Malnutrition and its diverse impacts can be prevented through coordinated action by government, civil society and businesses. The first step is ensuring that countries have plans and resources in place to scale up nutrition. Participatory local democracy is essential and citizens must be empowered to engage directly in setting priorities. The Global Day of Action (GDA) is a crucial step towards such participation.
6. Without concerted and coordinated action across government, progress against malnutrition will be insufficient. We call all leaders to ensure that key ministries, including agriculture, education, health, women and child development and social protection, to include improving nutrition as a key aim of their strategies.

7. The Civil Society Nutrition Alliance (CSONA) is coming together to show the national demand for continued strong action on nutrition, and holding government to account for delivering against commitments they have made.



WORK PLAN FOR TOWARDS THE ELECTIONS AND THE GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION

| Activity | Success Indicators | Responsible | Estimated Timeline | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|------|---|---|---|
| | | | March | | | | April | | | | May | | | | June | | | |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Goal 1: To raise the visibility of nutrition issues as well as influence running candidates for the 2014 Tripartite Elections to make traceable commitments to address a set clearly defined nutrition issues | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.1: Identify key public platforms/debates/forums where CSONA can be invited to raise nutrition issues and stimulate interest towards the elections | Number of platforms invited | CSONA members | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.2: Liaise with media houses (TVM, Zodiak, MBC etc) to be given a slot to discuss nutrition issues | Number of programs features | CSONA (JournAids) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.3: Develop a position paper highlighting CSONA's stand on nutrition issues in the country and progress made towards the Nutrition for growth summit | Press release of the position paper | CSONA (JournAids, SCI..) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.4: Produce pledge forms for candidates/politicians to pledge commit to nutrition and fulfill the Nutrition for Growth commitments made by Malawi | Number of pledge forms signed by candidates/politicians | CSONA (JournAids) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.5: Develop posters with a check list of nutrition issues to consider | Number of posters developed and disseminated to stakeholders | CSONA (WVI) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

