



**REPORT ON**  
**THE POLICY DIALOGUE ON “INVESTMENTS IN MATERNAL NUTRITION & INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING (IYCF) IN NIGERIA-CRITICAL BRIDGES FOR SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT”**

**AND**

**THE PUBLIC PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION FOR NUTRITION (NSPAN, 2014 – 2019)**

8TH SEPTEMBER, 2015

PARLIAMENT HALL, BOLTON WHITE HOTEL, ABUJA

*convened by*  
**CIVIL SOCIETY SCALING UP NUTRITION IN NIGERIA (CS-SUNN)**  
*In collaboration with the*  
**FEDERAL MINISTRY of HEALTH, ABUJA.**

**Report compiled**  
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## Executive Summary

Civil Society Scaling-Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, convened a Policy Dialogue with the theme “ **Investments in Maternal nutrition and Infant and Young Child Feeding in Nigeria-critical bridges for sustainable national development**” on 8<sup>th</sup> September , 2015, at the Bolton White Hotel, Abuja. A highlight of the event was the public presentation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN, 2014-2019) by Mr. Linus Awute, Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH).

The objectives of the Policy Dialogue were:

- To create awareness among key stakeholders on the burden of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- To familiarize key stakeholders on the relevant government policies and plans that address malnutrition and related issues, and their expected roles and responsibilities
- To identify opportunities as well as potential barriers and challenges to the implementation of these policies and plans especially at sub-national levels and recommend practical steps towards resolving them
- To reach a consensus on how to respond to the nutritional needs of women and children, agree on the way forward and next steps.

The Policy Dialogue attracted high-level participation: 139 people attended with representation as follows: 55 from Government and Partners, 65 from Civil Society Organizations and 19 from the media. Key presentations were made on “Drivers of Malnutrition in Nigeria” by Dr. Arjan De Wagt (Chief of Nutrition, UNICEF, Nigeria) and “Mainstreaming Nutrition into Agriculture” by Dr. Victor Ajieroh (Federal Ministry of Agric and Rural Development).

The robust contributions from stakeholders during the dialogue were coordinated by Dr. Chris Isokpunwu, Claire Adelabu – Abdulrazak and Bola Kusemiju.

Key action points and way forward included:

- ❖ APHPN and other Partners committed to sponsor legislation that will support approval of maternity leave extension to six months at the Federal / States levels
- ❖ Government and Private Partners should endorse ten working days paternity leave.
- ❖ Nutrition should be given its prime place by implementation of the NSPAN
- ❖ Nutrition education should be included in churches, mosques and other social institutions.
- ❖ Nutrition sensitive programs should be promoted in Agriculture, Education and other sectors to compliment other health sector driven initiative.
- ❖ Promotion of Behavioral Change Communication that will improve nutrition practices.
- ❖ Participants advocated that the reviewed National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP) 2014 should be finalized urgently, endorsed and disseminated.

Conclusion: The Policy Dialogue was successful as planned objectives were achieved and stakeholders were mobilized to scale up nutrition in their spheres of influence. The CS-SUNN team gives all the glory to God Almighty for the giant steps taken.

## **Introduction:**

The Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) secured the Multi Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) grant to mobilize and strengthen Civil Society Organizations to scale up nutrition in Nigeria, in August 2015. The CS-SUNN team planned a Policy Dialogue meeting to flag off the MPTF grant implementation and a Concept note was developed to guide the implementation of the activity. The Policy Dialogue with the theme “**Investments in Maternal nutrition and Infant and Young Child Feeding – critical bridges for sustainable development**” held on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, at the Bolton White Hotels, Abuja.

The CS-SUNN Network Coordinator, Dr. Philippa Momah welcomed participants to the Policy Dialogue. She introduced CS-SUNN as a non-governmental, non-profit making coalition committed to engaging state actors and mobilizing non-state actors to serve as a catalyst to ensure that the policies and plans addressing Maternal and Child Nutrition are implemented at all levels. Dr. Momah stated that the objectives of the Policy Dialogue were:

- To create awareness among key stakeholders on the burden of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- To familiarize key stakeholders on the relevant government policies and plans that address malnutrition and related issues, and their expected roles and responsibilities
- To identify opportunities as well as potential barriers and challenges to the implementation of these policies and plans especially at sub-national levels and recommend practical steps towards resolving them
- To reach a consensus on how to respond to the nutritional needs of women and children, agree on the way forward and next steps.

The CS-SUNN team distributed facts sheets on the drivers of malnutrition in Nigeria, that included CS-SUNN’s Key Asks for the Government as:

- **Implement the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN 2014-2019) at every level, with emphasis on maternal and child nutrition.**
- **Budgetary allocation and timely release of funds for maternal nutrition and Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices and interventions, at the national, state and local government levels, and in all sectors.**
- **Maternity and Exclusive Breastfeeding (EBF) protection through the extension of maternity leave to six months in all states.**

## **Summary of Presentations :**

1. The RENEW multi media presentation on “ Malnutrition : Nigeria’s silent crisis “ was facilitated by Dr. Chris Isokpunwu, the SUN Focal Person, Federal Ministry of Health.

**2. Address by the President, Association of Public Health Physicians in Nigeria (APHPN) Prof. Tanimola Akande, represented by Dr. Ima Kashim:**

In the address, Prof Akande pointed out the obvious malnutritional status of children in Nigeria and the importance of this type of multi-sectorial involvement to correct the current indices of malnutrition in the country. He applauded CS-SUNN’s role and on behalf of APHPN urged the government to extend maternity leave to six months and also initiate a ten-day paternity leave for fathers to enable them support their breastfeeding wives and safeguard the future of our

children. He stated that APHPN would support action to legislate for the extended maternity leave.

### **3. Goodwill messages by partners and donors**

Goodwill messages were given by the following partners and donors:

- Mrs. Melkamnesh Alemu (Health Adviser, Department For International Development)
- Dr. Glory Essien (Representing the President, Medical Women Association of Nigeria Dr. Valerie Obot)
- Dr. Oladipo (Country Director, Micronutrient Initiative)
- Prof. Ngozi Nnam (President, Nutrition Society of Nigeria and Chairman of CS-SUNN Board)
- Dr. Ayeke Anthony (Health Advisor, EU delegation in Nigeria)

### **4. Presentation on “ Drivers of Malnutrition in Nigeria” by Dr. Arjan De Wagt (Chief of Nutrition, UNICEF, Nigeria)**

Dr. Arjan reviewed the multiple dimensions of child malnutrition including stunting, wasting, micronutrient deficiencies and overweight/obesity; the prevalence of stunting among children under 5 in Nigeria, with the worst affected being Niger, Taraba, Kebbi and Borno state. In his presentation, it was estimated that for every dollar invested, 27 dollars will be returned as investments. He listed the impacts of investing in nutrition which are:

- To boost GNP by 11% in Africa
- Prevent nearly half of child mortality
- Increase school attainment by at least one year
- Boost wage rates by 5-50%
- Make 33% of children more likely to escape poverty as adults

He ended his speech by urging for movements to be formed in the communities, market places, churches, mosques, in our neighborhoods to educate women on malnutritional behaviors and create a paradigm shift towards behavioral changes for improved nutrition in our country.

### **5. Presentation on Mainstreaming Nutrition into Agriculture by Dr. Victor Ajieroh (Federal Ministry of Agric and Rural Development)**

Dr. Victor stated that the way forward to mainstreaming nutrition into Agriculture is to increase and sustain the availability, access, affordability and consumption of nutritious and diverse foods among vulnerable groups in Nigeria to reduce stunting, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity and also to harmonize health, nutrition and social protection.

He stated that the key strategic priorities for doing these are:

- Expanding access to food by improving processing, storage, and preservation in food value chains
- Diversifying household food production and consumption through food-based approaches

- Building resilience and social protection nets through food and nutrition systems for vulnerable groups
- Promoting Nutrition Research and Information systems and Surveillance
- Improving the capacity to address Food and Nutrition Security Problems
- Nutrition Education, Social Marketing, Behavioural Change Communication and Advocacy
- Establishing Sustainable Nutrition Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

#### **6. Address on the “Legislative Process to ensure Sustainable Investments in Maternal and Child Nutrition” at the National and State Levels by Distinguished Senator C. Utazi, National Assembly**

Senator Utazi was unavoidably absent but submitted his address through his legislative aid Mr. Chinedu Odenyi. In his speech, the distinguished Senator stated that the first step to achieving this is to ensure that all states incorporate the Child Rights Act as part of domestic laws; the second step being to strengthen the nutrition administered to children, the diet of mothers and the condition of care givers to new-born; and the last step being to ensure legislative backing for funding of child and maternal nutrition initiatives and interventions in a sustainable manner. The distinguished Senator concluded by stating that all stakeholders must work towards a comprehensive policy and other actions, including legislative actions that would effectively reduce malnutrition in children and in pregnant or nursing mothers.

#### **7. Keynote address on Investments in Maternal and Child Nutrition & IYCF-critical bridges for National Development by the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Health, Mr. Linus Awute**

The Permanent Secretary, FMOH, Mr. Linus Awute in his address, reviewed the unacceptable situation of under nutrition among Nigerian children and emphasized that optimal nutrition is paramount at every stage of human life. He stated that this can be achieved by commitments, values and principles not just by the federal governments but by the other levels of government as well (state and local government). He also emphasized that the issues of malnutrition should also be taught in religious centers-churches and mosques and that policies alone are not enough to reduce malnutrition unless a strategic working template is involved.

He acknowledged the various media houses for their achievements so far in promoting the health sector and charged them on photo effect, which he said would be important in promoting the achievements of the health sector.

#### **8. The presentation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN, 2014-2019)**

The highlight of the day was the public presentation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN, 2014-2019) by Mr. Linus Awute and copies of the NSPAN document were disseminated to Partners, NGO’s and Media present.

## **9. The Dialogue Session facilitated by Claire Adelabu-Abdulrasak of NTA News 24 and Bola Kusemiju:**

A working class mother by name Rita Yakal Nandon was called upon by Mrs. Claire Adelabu-Abdulrasak of NTA to talk about her experiences towards exclusive breastfeeding even while working. She said it was a very challenging experience for her but with the supports of her husband, her mother and her boss she was able to achieve the success. She attributed exclusively breastfeeding as one of the major reason why her baby Dahlia Nandon, had never fallen ill and admitted into any hospital.

Questions and contributions during the dialogue included:

1. Why there are still a great percentage of malnourished children in the northern regions of Nigeria as compared to other regions even though their religion compels them to breastfeed for two years.
2. Why the northern regions of Nigeria still have a large number of malnourished children even though most of the foods consumed in Nigeria are produced by them.
3. Chika Aneke of PRAWA asked if it is possible for an exclusively breastfed child to still be malnourished and how a malnourished child could be identified.
4. Mr. Rotimi, a Youth Corper asked that more light be thrown on micronutrient supplementation for hidden hunger and what could be done about malnourished adults.
5. Mrs. Claire of NTA asked how women could be empowered so as to afford good nutritious meals for themselves
6. The Chairman of CS-SUNN steering committee, Prof. Ngozi Nnam commented that there should be adequate nutrition education on best practices for breastfeeding. She also encouraged mothers to exercise lots of patience while breastfeeding their babies to ensure adequate feeding.
7. Mrs. Akinbinu of the Federal Ministry of Agric and Rural Development commented that nutrition education should be for everybody, especially for fathers, mothers in-laws and household environments at large and not just for the midwives, nurses and nursing mothers
8. Mrs. Abuchi Elele, Nutritionist for the State House hospital, suggested that Nutrition education should be mainstreamed in school curriculums and made compulsory for all students so that they can familiarize better and earlier with nutrition and best practices for exclusive breastfeeding. She also suggested that there should be proper training for all health workers
9. Mr. Obi Onyigwe of National Community for Family Health suggested that health workers should also encourage and support physically challenged mothers and children as well as the Internally Displaced Persons around them.
10. Dr. Morry of Family Physicians suggested that children should be served individually so as to ensure they feed well rather than making them eat together with their older siblings. She also suggested that lots of patience be exercised by mothers while feeding their babies.
11. Dr. Victor suggested that lots of care be expressed and feelings be considered like smiling at the baby or holding their hands, while feeding them.
12. A participant suggested that there should be more inclusive nutrition education programs, i.e. looking out for people with physical, social and economic disabilities and including them into nutrition education.

## **Principal observations made during the Policy Dialogue**

- 2 out of every 3 Nigerian child are not being fed adequately
- 1 in every 2 child's death in Nigeria is as a result of malnutrition
- Optimal nutrition is paramount at every stage of human life and this can be achieved by commitment, value principles not only by the federal government but by the other levels of government as well.
- The Agric sector has a strategic plan towards addressing the issues of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- The National Food and Nutrition Policy 2014 has been reviewed but yet to be finalized
- The media plays a critical role in the publicity and sensitization of nutrition sensitive issues in Nigeria.
- Malnutrition is more of a problem in the north, especially the north western part of Nigeria
- The government should mainstream nutrition into schoolscurriculums and make it mandatory for all students.

## **Advocacy Action Points/Communiqué**

1. APHPN and other Partners agreed to sponsor a legislation that will support approval of maternity leave extension to six months in FCT states levels.
2. Donors pledged support to continue to support Nigeria's efforts to scale-up nutrition
3. All stakeholders agreed that Nutrition should be given its prime place by Government.
4. Increase packages of Midwives Training to include Nutrition
5. Nutrition education should be included in churches, mosques and social institutions.
6. Promote nutrition sensitive programs in Agriculture and other sectors to compliment other health sector driven initiative
7. Nutrition advocacy should be a buy-in initiative in every government and private sector establishments.
8. Ten working days paternity leave should be initiated at states level.
9. Participants advocated that the reviewed National Food and Nutrition Policy 2014-2019 be finalized urgently, endorsed and disseminated.
10. Promote Behavioral Change Communication that will drive a change in the Nigerian value system.

**Closing Remark :** The closing remark was said by the Chairman of CS-SUNN steering committee, Professor Ngozi Nnam.

The Policy Dialogue meeting ended at 3:08p.m

## **APPENDIX I : CONCEPT NOTE ON THE POLICY DIALOGUE**

**CS-SUNN Concept Note on the National Policy Dialogue on “Investments in Maternal Nutrition and Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) – critical bridges for sustainable national development,” at Bolton White Hotels, Garki, 8th September, 2015.**

### **Background**

Malnutrition and nutrition related diseases continue to be of public health significance in Nigeria due to complex factors. Malnourished children have an increased risk of disability and premature death, are highly predisposed to infectious diseases and are unlikely to reach their full potential. Malnutrition is an underlying factor in over 50% of ill health and mortality among children under 5 years of age. The 2013 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) showed that 37% of Nigerian children under-five are stunted, 29% are underweight, and 18% are wasted. The data also revealed that the levels of wasting rose from 14% in 2008 to 18% in 2013, signifying recent deprivation among these children.

With over 11 million stunted children, Nigeria has the highest burden of malnutrition in Africa. The poor nutrition indices in Nigeria (NDHS 2008, 2013) are traceable to several factors that include poor infant and child feeding practices, poor stewardship and policy implementation, poor access to healthcare, water, and sanitation, and a high level of poverty. In recognition of the dismal health indices, Nigeria has taken some steps towards improving the health and nutritional status of women and children in the last decade, with increasing efforts aimed at ensuring food security through local food production. The Nigerian Government, in collaboration with key stakeholders, has developed the National Strategic Plan of Action on Nutrition (NSPAN) which sets out costed, nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions with measurable targets to be achieved between 2014 and 2019. Annually, a total of NGN 85.1 billion (431 million USD) is required to implement the NSPAN’s six priority areas of focus, namely: Maternal Nutrition, Infant and Young Child Feeding, Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition, Micronutrient Deficiency Control, Diet Related Non-communicable Diseases and Nutrition Information Systems.

However, despite these positive steps, malnutrition will continue to be a major cause of death and ill health unless the Government and other stakeholders commit to the implementation of the NSPAN, with especial focus on maternal and child nutrition. As Nigeria joins other nations to sign up for the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, there is urgent need for investments that will address the drivers of malnutrition especially inappropriate feeding practices, poor stewardship and policy implementation. The CS-SUNN is engaging state actors, and mobilizing non-state actors to serve as a catalyst to ensure that the policies and plans addressing maternal and child nutrition are implemented at all levels of governance, in the interest of Nigerians.

Against this backdrop, CS-SUNN is hosting a national stakeholders’ policy dialogue to engender discussions around this critical problem of malnutrition among women and children in Nigeria, align with current national policies on Nutrition and reach a consensus on how to address malnutrition by stakeholders from across the different sectors.

### **Justification/ Rationale**

The NSPAN provides a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach to tackling the problem of malnutrition among women and children, yet available evidence has shown that the implementation of the plan at both the national and state levels has been slow. At present, most nutritional programs are mainly funded by donor agencies, leaving the sustainability of these programs in doubt. In addition, the current security challenges in the North East geopolitical zone, have resulted in a large number of internally-displaced persons (IDPs) located in different camps within and outside the North East, and there have been records of malnutrition among women and children in the IDP camps.

In the light of the above, it is imperative for stakeholders, including state and non-state actors to respond to the call to action by CS-SUNN and collaboratively work by mobilizing the needed resources to address the problems of malnutrition among women and children in Nigeria.

**Theme: “Investments in Maternal Nutrition and Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) – critical bridges for sustainable national development”**

### **Objectives**

1. To create awareness among key stakeholders on the burden of malnutrition in Nigeria.
2. To familiarize key stakeholders on the relevant government policies and plans that address malnutrition and related issues, and their expected roles and responsibilities
3. To identify opportunities as well as potential barriers and challenges to the implementation of these policies and plans especially at sub-national levels and recommend practical steps towards resolving them
4. To reach a consensus on how to respond to the nutritional needs of women and children, agree on the way forward and next steps.

### **Key Questions:**

The policy dialogue will seek to tackle the following questions:

1. What are the major drivers of malnutrition in Nigeria?
2. What are the resource gaps in the funding and implementation of critically needed nutritional interventions in Nigeria?
3. What can policy makers, legislators and civil society do to address malnutrition among women and children in Nigeria?
4. What strategies should be adopted to help elevate Breastfeeding as a top priority?
5. What coordination mechanisms are in place to harmonize resources and programs of nutrition stakeholders?
6. What plans for the government to engage with CSOs/NGOs to key into the nutrition goal of the Sustainable Development Goals?

### **Expected outcome**

At the end of the policy dialogue, participants will expectedly become fully aware of the burden of malnutrition in Nigeria and what critical actions are needed to urgently address the problem. The proceedings of the policy dialogue including call to action/ communiqué will be circulated widely to elicit further discussions in the public domain through social media.

### **Methodology**

The dialogue will be participatory and solutions-driven in nature and will include a presentation by the lead presenter and short presentations/comments by selected panelists under the guidance of a Facilitator who will ensure that the discussions stay within the sphere of malnutrition among women and children in Nigeria. The audience will be encouraged to participate by making comments or asking questions (using cards provided) and no section of the participants should dominate the discourse and efforts should be made to manage interests and reduce potential arguments and conflicts.

### **Panel Discussions:**

Panelists will make presentations or comments on each of the following areas:

- Keynote Presentation – Federal Ministry of Health
- Mobilizing Civil Society to scale up nutrition in Nigeria- CS-SUNN
- Drivers of Malnutrition in Nigeria - UNICEF
- Mainstreaming Nutrition into Agriculture - FMARD
- Coordination of Investments in Maternal and Child nutrition: The role of National Planning Commission (NPC)
- Sustainable funding option for investments in Maternal and Child Nutrition FMF
- Legislative processes to ensure sustainable investments in Maternal and Child nutrition at the national and state levels – Nat. Assembly. Senator

**Moderator:** The Policy Dialogue will be facilitated Claire Adelabu- Abdulrazak (NTA News 24), and supported by CS-SUNN

### **Participants**

Stakeholders to be invited to the policy dialogue will include:

- The Media
- National Assembly: Senator and House of Reps Members from high burden states
- Sector Ministries at Federal levels (Health, Education, Agriculture, Finance, National Planning, Information, Justice, Women Affairs.)
- Health Professional Regulatory/Licensing Boards
- Civil Society: NGOs, FBOs, Professional Associations.
- Multilaterals and Bilaterals (WHO, UNICEF, USAID)
- Foundations & International Organizations: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Proposed Date/Time:** The one-day policy dialogue is expected to hold on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2015, from 10:00 am- 1:00PM

**Proposed Venue:** Bolton White Hotel, Garki.

### **Publicity**

Being a public event, efforts will be made to widely publicize the event through the following strategies, depending on available budgets:

- Adverts in 1 National Daily
- Publicity through CS-SUNN Website
- Letters of invitation to key stakeholders and organizations
- Email invitations using our mailing list/listserv within our professional networks
- Text blasts through bulk SMS, etc.
- Press Release and if possible hold Press Conference before the Dialogue

Participants will be provided Malnutrition related policy briefs and relevant background information ahead of the event to facilitate deep intellectual discussions during the discourse.

### **Key Outputs & Deliverables**

- A Communiqué and Call to Action.
- A comprehensive report from the facilitator/s.
- Press Release

### **Budget**

The budget will cover the following items: Hall hire , Light Refreshments ( Water & Small Chops); Newspaper advert in Daily Trust ; Sending of Invitation Letters; Press Coverage (Recorded Video, TV, Radio & Newspapers)

### **Next Steps/Key Planning Activities**

- Secure and pay for Hall (and Refreshments)
- Develop draft agenda
- Develop participants list
- Draft/send out invitation letters to participants
- Contact panelists & secure participation
- Prepare communication materials ( CS-SUNN Reports, NSPAN etc)
- Place advert in newspapers

### **Potential Partners/Supporters**

- Federal Ministry of Health
- UNICEF

## **APPENDIX II :      ADVOCACY ACTION POINTS/COMMUNIQUE**

**ACTION POINTS from the Policy Dialogue on “Investments in Maternal Nutrition and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) – Critical Bridges For Sustainable Development”, by CIVIL SOCIETY –SCALING UP NUTRITION IN NIGERIA (CS-SUNN)/ MPTF on 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2015 at the Bolton White Hotel, Abuja.**

Civil Society Scaling-up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) in flagging off the MPTF project, and in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, convened a Policy Dialogue on “Investments on Maternal Nutrition and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) – Critical bridges for sustainable national development” at the Bolton White Hotel, Abuja on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2015. 135 persons (55 males and 80 Females) participated in the dialogue: 57 from Government MDAs/ Development Partners, 69 from Civil Society Organizations and 19 media representatives. Participants included Mr. Linus Awute, the Permanent Secretary of Federal Ministry of Health, representatives of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Education and Information, Presidents of Nutrition Society of Nigeria, Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria, UNICEF, USAID, DFID, MI, HKI, SPRING, GAIN and other Professional Organizations. The highlight of the activity was the Public presentation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN , 2014 -2019) by Mr. Linus Awute, the Permanent Secretary, FMOH.

Objectives of the dialogue were:

- ❖ To create awareness among key stakeholders on the burden of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- ❖ To familiarize key stakeholders on the relevant Government Policies and Plans that address malnutrition and related issues, and their expected roles and responsibilities
- ❖ To identify opportunities as well as potential barriers and challenges to the implementation of these policies and plans especially at sub-national levels and recommend practical steps towards resolving them
- ❖ Reach a consensus on how to respond to the nutritional needs of women and children in Nigeria, agree on the way forward and next steps.

**During the sessions the following observations were made:**

- ❖ 2 out of every 3 Nigerian children are not being fed adequately
- ❖ 1 in 2 children’s death in Nigeria is due to malnutrition
- ❖ Optimal nutrition is paramount at every stage of human life and this can be achieved by commitment, value principles not only by the Government but the Nigerian population.
- ❖ Agric sector now has a strategic plan outlining the nutrition component.

- ❖ The National Food and Nutrition Policy (NFNP), 2014 has been reviewed but has not been finalized
- ❖ The media plays a critical role in publicity and sensitization on nutrition issues
- ❖ The government should make nutrition mandatory in schools.

**Action Points and Way Forward:-**

- ❖ APHPN and other Partners agreed to sponsor a legislation that will support approval of maternity leave extension to six months at the Federal / States levels
- ❖ Government and Private Partners should endorse ten working days paternity leave to support and promote exclusive breastfeeding and male involvement in IYCF practices.
- ❖ Donors pledged support to continue to support Nigeria's efforts to scale-up nutrition
- ❖ All stakeholders agreed that Nutrition should be given its prime place by Government – as unveiled by the Permanent Secretary FMOH
- ❖ Increase packages for Midwives Training to include Nutrition
- ❖ Nutrition education should be included in churches, mosques and other social institutions.
- ❖ Nutrition programming should be made more inclusive
- ❖ Promote nutrition sensitive programs in Agriculture, Education and other sectors to compliment other health sector driven initiative
- ❖ Nutrition advocacy should be a buy-in initiative in every government and private sector establishments.
- ❖ Participants are advocating that the reviewed NFNP 2014 should be finalized urgently, endorsed and disseminated
- ❖ Promote BCC that will drive change in the value system of Nigerians

**APPENDIX III:****AGENDA****Policy Dialogue on “Investments in Maternal Nutrition and Infant & Young Child Feeding (IYCF) – critical bridges for sustainable national development.”****Venue: Bolton White Hotel, Garki Abuja.****Date: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015.**

| <b>TIME</b>      | <b>ACTIVITY</b>  | <b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>                                 |
|------------------|--|---|
| 9:30-10:00       | Registration/ Introduction   | Mr. S. Okoronkwo  |
| 10:00-10:05      | Opening Prayers  | All   |
| 10:05-10:20      | Opening Address  | CS-SUNN Network Coordinator                               |
| 10.20 – 10:30    | Public Health aspects of under-nutrition   | APHPN Chairman  |
| 10.30 – 10.40    | Goodwill messages  | NSN, MWAN, WINN   |
| 10:40 – 11:00    | RENEW Multimedia presentation  | Dr. Chris O. Isokpunwu (FMOH & SUN Focal Person, Nigeria) |
| 11:00 – 11.10    | Drivers of Malnutrition in Nigeria   | Chief of Nutrition, UNICEF                                |
| 11:10 – 11:20    | Mainstreaming Nutrition into Agriculture   | Permanent Secretary, FMARD                                |
| 11:20-11:30      | Coordination of Investments in Maternal and Child nutrition: The role of National Planning Commission (NPC)              | Secretary, National Planning Commission (NPC)             |
| 11:30-11:40      | Sustainable funding option for investments in Maternal and Child Nutrition   | Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Finance          |
| 11:40 – 11: 50   | Legislative processes to ensure sustainable investments in Maternal and Child nutrition at the national and state levels | Distinguished Senator C. Utazi, National Assembly         |
| 11:50 – 12:10pm  | Keynote Address by the Permanent Secretary   | Mr. Linus Awute, Permanent Secretary, FMOH.               |
| 12:10 – 12: 50pm | Dialogue/Questions/Answers   | Facilitating Consultant                                   |
| 12:50 -1:00pm    | Public presentation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN) 2014 - 2019                           | Mr. Linus Awute, Permanent Secretary, FMOH                |
| 1:00 - 1.10pm    | Advocacy Action Points/ Communiqué   | CS-SUNN Projects Director                                 |
| 1:10 - 20pm      | Closing remarks  | Chairman, CS-SUNN   |

## APPENDIX IV: FACTS SHEET ON DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION

| FACTS SHEET ON DRIVERS OF MALNUTRITION                                |   |  |              |            |
|---|---|--|--------------|------------|
| Table 1: Drivers of Malnutrition: Magnitude of the problem in Nigeria |   |  |              |            |
| Cause   |   | Indicator  | Natio<br>nal | Sources    |
| Immediate Causes  | Inadequate dietary intake                           | Exclusive Breastfeeding of children until 6 months of age (%)                              | 17           | NDHS 2013  |
|   | Prevalence of Diarrhoea                             | Percentage of children under age 5 who had diarrhoea in the two weeks preceding the survey | 10.2         | NDHS 2013  |
|   | Prevalence of Malaria                               | Percentage of children under age 5 with a fever during the two weeks preceding the survey  | 12.5         | NDHS 2013  |
| Underlying Causes   | Food Security                                       | Households in poorest wealth quintiles with poor or borderline food consumption (%)        | 29           | IFPRI 2013 |
|   |   | Global Hunger Index Score Rank (2013)  | 15           | GHI 2013   |
|   | Health & Sanitation                                 | Women 15-49 years with problems accessing health care (%)                                  | 53.3         | NDHS 2013  |
|   |   | Household access to an improved water source (%)   | 60.6         | NDHS 2013  |
|   |   | Household access to improved sanitation (%)  | 30.1         | NDHS 2013  |
|   | Care and Feeding Practices                          | Exclusive Breastfeeding of children until 6 months of age (%)                              | 17           | NDHS 2013  |
|   |   | Timely initiation of breastfeeding percent (within the first hour)                         | 33.2         | NDHS 2013  |
|   |   | Compliance to recommended infant and young child feeding practices                         | 10%          | NDHS 2013  |
| Education   | Females that completed primary school or higher (%) | 62.2   | NDHS 2013    |            |
| Basic Causes  | Population  | Total Fertility Rate (%)   | 5.5          | NDHS 2013  |
|   | Gender  | Women's intra-household decision-making power (%)  | 31.3         | NDHS 2013  |
|   | Poverty   | Population living under the national poverty line (%)                                      | 54.7         | UNDP 2013  |

**APPENDIX V: ATTENDANCE LIST****Government/Partners**

| <b>S/N</b> | <b>Name</b>         | <b>Organization/Institution</b> |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1          | Bayode A.H          | FMoH                            |
| 2          | Oyibo F.U           | FMoH                            |
| 3          | Ohenmwun D.E        | FMoH                            |
| 4          | Umar A.             | FMoH                            |
| 5          | Dr. Wapada I        | FMoH                            |
| 6          | Dr. Victor Ajieroh  | FMARD                           |
| 7          | Keturah Onugha      | MOD                             |
| 8          | Dr. Oladipo Abiodun | MI                              |
| 9          | Dr. E.I. Odu        | NPHCDA                          |
| 10         | Chizoba Unaeze      | International Medical Corps     |
| 11         | Dr. Ayeke Anthony   | European Union Delegate         |
| 12         | Uduak Igbeka        | GAIN                            |
| 13         | Dominic Nwankwo     | Farm Treni                      |
| 14         | Akuchi Nelly        | State House (DAN)               |
| 15         | Bello Scholarstica  | FMARD                           |
| 16         | Babalola J.O        | FMARD                           |
| 17         | Agbana Omolola      | SON                             |
| 18         | Mercy Saba          | SON                             |
| 19         | Dr. Chimah U.C      | Ministry of Defence HQ          |
| 20         | Mrs. Tor Salome     | FCT-PHCB                        |
| 21         | Usigbe Vera         | NASS Clinic, Abuja              |
| 22         | Bolous I. F         | NASS Clinic                     |
| 23         | Chinedum Odenyi     | NASS                            |
| 24         | Rita Yakal          | MRDC                            |
| 25         | Melkamnesh Alemu    | DFID                            |
| 26         | Umoli M. U          | FME                             |
| 27         | Dr. Oyemyi O. S     | FMoH                            |
| 28         | Dr. Toluhi A. A     | MI                              |
| 29         | Arjan De Wagt       | UNICEF                          |
| 30         | AliyuThankGod U.    | FMoH                            |
| 31         | Angela Attah        | SUN Business Network            |
| 32         | Mercy Kalba         | FCT-PHCB                        |
| 33         | Dr. Chris Isokpunwu | FMoH                            |
| 34         | Faith Ette          | Save the Children               |
| 35         | Olomiwu Grace       | Save the Children               |
| 36         | Beatrice Eluaka     | SPRING                          |
| 37         | Babajide Adebisi    | SPRING                          |
| 38         | Pharm. Zubair Umar  | FMoH                            |
| 39         | Alima Abu           | Ummah Support Initiative        |

|    |                          |   |
|----|--------------------------|---|
| 40 | Dr. Gertrude Odezugo     | USAID   |
| 41 | Akinbinu Adeyinka        | FMARD   |
| 42 | Pamela Gado              | USIAD   |
| 43 | Comfort Agwu             | Helen Keller International                    |
| 44 | Olutayo Adeyemi          | FAO-UN  |
| 45 | Anjorin Mercy            | MI  |
| 46 | Rose O. Madu             | FMOI  |
| 47 | Christiana Joseph Malgwi | Defence and Police Officer Wives and Children |
| 48 | Dr. Vincent Ahonsi       | ORIE  |
| 49 | Paulette Iheka           | CHAI  |
| 50 | Anna Caraffi             | CHAI  |
| 51 | Akpotor Edwin            | PSN   |
| 52 | Abubakar Amida           | PSN   |
| 53 | Mrs. U.A Bobboi          | NAFDAC  |
| 54 | Dr. Mrs. A.V Elumelu     | MWAN-FCT                                      |

#### CSOs

|    |                      |                              |
|----|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 56 | Dr. Ima Kashim       | APHPN-FCT                    |
| 57 | Okeke Jennifer       | UATH                         |
| 58 | Dr. David Karatu     | APHPN-Gombe                  |
| 59 | Dr. Stella K. Essiet | MWAN                         |
| 60 | Dr. Modupe Akinyinka | APHPN-Lagos                  |
| 61 | Mrs. Kate Oturu      | WCDRC                        |
| 62 | Dr. Daniel A. Gazama | APHPN-Abuja                  |
| 63 | Omotola James        | RCCG, Abuja                  |
| 64 | Charlez Ogoh         | Social Safety Net Foundation |
| 65 | Rotimi Bisi          | First Baptist Church, Kuje   |
| 66 | Emepwa Ngozi         | Maitama District Hospital    |
| 67 | Felix Obi            | HERFON                       |
| 68 | Rikye J. Onus        | WINN                         |
| 69 | T. Magzha Afiniki    | WINN                         |
| 70 | Nnodi Kingsley       | CDACFI                       |
| 71 | Dr. Cyril C. Okeke   | CFMCHS                       |
| 72 | Igwe Ndubuisi        | Basic Health Foundation      |
| 73 | Rose Obeya           | Private                      |
| 74 | Okputu Joseph        | CISLAC                       |
| 75 | Bello T.O            | FOMWAN                       |
| 76 | Oguntade Isaac Dare  | CS-SUNN                      |
| 77 | Asharo Folake Derin  | SACDYEI                      |
| 78 | Sarah Obaje          | SACDYEI                      |

|     |                              |                                  |
|-----|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 79  | Chinwe Onumonu               | AAFP                             |
| 80  | Ogerenyi Beatrice PHD        | ACSEI                            |
| 81  | Abu Jude Adu-Oji             | Basic Health Foundation          |
| 82  | Dr. Glory Essien             | MWAN                             |
| 83  | Dr. Olugbemi O. Motilewa     | APHPN UYO                        |
| 84  | Sheidu Lasisi                | Chemical Society of Nigeria Kogi |
| 85  | Bola Kusemiju                | OCCB Consultant                  |
| 86  | Chianumba Reuben             | APHPN                            |
| 87  | Olri Peter                   | IFCH                             |
| 88  | Okoh Ifeanyi                 | HTYF                             |
| 89  | Kingsley Obiakor             | Basic Health Foundation          |
| 90  | Onyegbula Ada                | Basic health Foundation          |
| 91  | Alo Chicheteram              | CRH                              |
| 92  | Roseline Hemem               | NIWAAFA                          |
| 93  | Mrs. Nike Komolafe           | The Cradle Rockers               |
| 94  | Ifedilichukwu Ekene          | SCI                              |
| 95  | Tijani Abdulkareem           | SERDEC                           |
| 96  | Madam Obioma                 | ARDI                             |
| 97  | Tochukwu Wokoh               | ARDI                             |
| 98  | Adams Peter Eloyi            | RYAN/YPAED                       |
| 99  | Edet Utibe Effiong           | COWFAN                           |
| 100 | Mrs. Esther Anigsoki         | BINL                             |
| 101 | Mr. Chris Medupin            | Wings of Hope Foundation         |
| 102 | Chris John Mamuda            | Global Spring Consulting         |
| 103 | Dr. Omoruyi Adesuwa Patricia | MWAN                             |
| 104 | Shifa Garba                  | ZAYMAR                           |
| 105 | Dr. M.B. Uthman              | APHPN Kwara                      |
| 106 | Tanda Hailsham               | CUFHIA                           |
| 107 | Chika Aleke                  | PRAWA                            |
| 108 | Dr. Ohamaeme Moses           | APHPN Anambra                    |
| 109 | Mrs. Lizzy Igbine            | NWAAF                            |
| 110 | Mrs. Chizoba Steve Edemba    | Women in Nutrition               |
| 111 | Mrs. Clementine Okoro        | NSN                              |
| 112 | Dr. Ibekwe Ugochi            | MWAN Delta                       |
| 113 | Jayne Arinze-Egemonye        | CS-SUNN                          |
| 114 | Daga Veronica                | CS-SUNN                          |
| 115 | Okeke Silvia                 | CS-SUNN                          |
| 116 | Okoronkwo Sunday             | CS-SUNN                          |
| 117 | Ngozi S. Onuorah             | CS-SUNN                          |
| 118 | Momah. P.N                   | CS-SUNN                          |
| 119 | Ikeazota Chinenye            | CS-SUNN                          |
|     |                              |                                  |

|     | <b>MEDIA</b>              |                                     |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 120 | Claire Adelabu-Abdulrasaq | NTA News 24                         |
| 121 | Aisha Uba Ali             | NTA                                 |
| 123 | Karls Tsokar              | The Guardian                        |
| 124 | Ijeoma Ukonu              | The Abuja Inquirer                  |
| 125 | Orih Chibuike             | The Nigerian Voice                  |
| 126 | Salihu Tanimu             | Kapital F.M                         |
| 127 | Romanus Onu               | FRCN, Abuja                         |
| 128 | Desmond Kolawole          | Core TV News                        |
| 128 | Ayo Ojo                   | Core TV News                        |
| 129 | Stella maries Amuna       | Economic Confidential               |
| 130 | Ndidi Chukwu              | National Trial/Health Reporter Info |
| 131 | Judd-Leonard              | Daily Trust                         |
| 132 | Emeka Amakor              | TV 360 News                         |
| 133 | Muhammed Baba             | NTA News                            |
| 134 | Yecenu Sasetu             | Kiss F.M                            |
| 135 | Mohammed Husaini          | Voice of Nigeria                    |
| 136 | Joy Uzor                  | NTA                                 |
| 137 | Tom Okpe                  | Daily News Newspaper                |
| 138 | Lawrence Okoji            | TV C                                |
| 139 | Hadisa J                  | TV C                                |