

SUN Movement Multi-Partner Trust Fund



ANNUAL NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

REPORT COVER PAGE

<p>Participating Organization: Concern Worldwide</p>	<p>Priority Sector covered: Nutrition: Capacity building, advocacy and communications</p>
<p>Programme¹ No. and Programme Title: SUN-Window2-004 - “Strengthening the role of Civil Society in Scaling-up nutrition in Malawi”</p>	<p>Report Number:</p>
<p>Reporting Period: 1st January – 31st December 2015</p>	<p>Programme Budget: US\$428,000</p>
<p>List Implementing Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Participating UN or Non-UN Organization:</i> • <i>Other International Organizations</i> • <i>National (government, private, NGOs & CSOs)</i> <p>Concern Worldwide</p>	<p>Programme Coverage/Scope: <i>Specify in which region and/or national coverage/scope of the programme</i> Malawi, Southern Africa</p>
<p>Abbreviations and acronyms:</p> <p><i>List the main abbreviations and acronyms that are used in the report.</i> CSONA – Civil Society Organization</p>	<p>Programme Duration/Closed Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Programme duration:</i> 36 months • <i>Budget revisions:</i> October 2014

Nutrition Alliance
DNHA – Department of Nutrition HIV & AIDS
DNCC – District Nutrition Coordinating Committee
SUN - Scaling-Up Nutrition
GMT – Graca Machel Trust
MPs – Members of Parliament
N4G - Nutrition for Growth
SCUI - Save the Children International

- *Programme Extensions:*
31st December 2016

Report Formatting Instructions

Kindly review the instructions below and follow them in the preparation of your report

- Do not put the narrative text into boxes and do not incorporate boxes, graphs, etc into the narrative report.
- Add additional information including charts, graphs, etc. as annexes to the report and clearly reference the annexes using footnotes or endnotes within the body of the narrative.
- Number all sections and paragraphs as indicated below.
- Format the entire document using the following font: 12point Times New Roman & do not use colours.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Civil Society Organizations Nutrition Alliance (CSONA)'s role in Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) efforts is being recognized at the national, regional and global level. This is an indicator of CSONA gaining strength and influence in country as well as internationally. Over the course of 2015, strong partnerships and collaborations have evolved with other organizations such as, the Graca Machel Trust (GMT) on a regional level and Save the Children International (SCUI) nationally. In country, CSONA is a key member of the National Nutrition Policy Advisory Team, the Nutrition Cluster group and quite recently the United Nations (UN) Steering group committee on Advancing Right to Food in Malawi. The Malawi Department of Nutrition, HIV, and AIDS (DNHA) requested CSONA to attend the Scaling-Up Nutrition (SUN) Global Gathering in Rome, as part of the official national delegation. The DNHA continues to seek CSONA's involvement in national nutrition efforts.

To enable a more focused approach towards its work, CSONA developed a 3-year Advocacy & Communication strategy with 3 identified priority areas focused on; nutrition investments, district coordination and social protection. Through these priority areas CSONA has conducted a capacity and landscape analysis to scope out mechanism to strengthen district level coordination, policy and document analysis to map out gaps and linkages for a nutrition sensitive policies (including social protection); and annual budget analysis and tracking exercise to monitor and evaluate national nutrition investments as they relate to the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Road to Rio 2016.

This year CSONA displayed a continued growth and dialogue with Members of Parliament (MPs) who are now pledged nutrition champions towards the 2nd N4G Road to Rio in 2016. The engagement with

MP) is aimed at strengthening their nutrition champion building skills and this has advanced through a series of meetings, fact finding missions and trainings. As for CSONA's governance and institutional arrangements, a 4-member Board of Directors (BOD) with an elected Chairperson was selected through a vetting process. A constitution signed by the BOD was submitted to the Ministry of Justice to legally register CSONA as an organization.

NARRATIVE REPORT FORMAT

I. Purpose

The purpose of the MPTF grant is to facilitate a CSO alliance to take a leading role in influencing and supporting national efforts through meaningful dialogue, advocacy with stakeholders including Government, donors and the private sector in national nutrition efforts. The program is expected to establish a civil society nutrition alliance that is effective in advocacy efforts, increasing resource allocation and commitment to nutrition programs through effective public awareness as well as engaging households in aligned interventions that result in uptake of best practices. The primary expected outcomes for this project are:

- Capacity building: CSO alliance established and effective in advocacy efforts to influence policy making
- Advocacy: Increased resource allocation and commitment to nutrition programs through effective public awareness and advocacy campaigns
- Communication: Communities engage in aligned nutrition interventions that result in uptake of best practices maniacal

Capacity Building

Under this outcome, CSONA aims to improve national and district coordination, and to establish an effective, sustainable, vibrant platforms that share learning and progress on nutrition, and to hold government and other stakeholders accountable for ensuring good nutrition. CSONA has made considerable progress in establishing a regular nutrition platform however engagement and commitment from members has not been very consistent. In 2015, there were 7 national nutrition platform meetings held with an average attendance of ten CSONA members. Out of the 7 major meeting that were held, 6 members were consistent in their attendance in meetings. Moving forward CSONA aims to use the platforms more as learning routes and assign responsibilities to members to be fully committed to platform meetings. At the district level, regular and follow-up meetings were conducted in at least 7 districts namely; Mchinji, Balaka, Ntchisi, Salima, Nkhotakota, Blantyre and Zomba. While advancement was made in mobilizing both local and international organizations to form CSO district nutrition platforms, several challenges were met. For instance identification of lead CSOs who could drive the coordination process at district level, the distinction between CSO district nutrition platform – fear of duplicating the roles of already existing structures e.g. DNCC. It is through these concerns that CSONA carried out a capacity assessment and landscape analysis to better inform on what would potentially work given the context in establishing district nutrition platforms.

Although the process of registration is ongoing, CSONA has established an identity of its own, with a logo and constitution which clearly stipulates the aims, objectives, and governance structures for

CSONA. A 4-member BOD has been established and has elected a chairperson. Towards the end of the year the BOD met to discuss how they envisioned CSONA to work and transition towards its legal independency; and the registration forms have been submitted to the Ministry of Justice for certification and await formal registration. The Secretariat is in place, but remains small with just two full-time staff. Although a partnership agreement was made with a UK organisation Progressio, who have agreed to provide and co-fund a Communications and Advocacy Officer to take the lead in developing advocacy and communication strategies, the process of recruiting and retaining individuals has been challenging. Throughout the year the position was only filled for 3 months between March and May. The agreement is to be reviewed and rectified to counteract the challenges. One of the outputs of the MPTF is to build the capacity of CSONA secretariat. Through support from the GMT and RESULTS, CSONA attended the RESULTS 35th International Conference in Washington DC. Aside from the conferences a campaigning planning workshop was organized and focused on integrating citizen advocacy into campaigns. The workshop was beneficial as it oriented the model that RESULTS uses to push its agenda as well as how it leverages voices from the field through its grassroots volunteers. This was something that was integrated and contextually modified in the nutrition champion building workshop training with Malawi MPs and CSOs.

To kick start the capacity building trainings at all levels, an advocacy brainstorming session was held to identify priority areas and agenda that CSONA is to focus on. Through this exercise CSONA narrowed down its focus areas and drafted an Advocacy and Communication strategy which is to be validated in early 2016. In line with Advocacy & Communication strategy, a capacity assessment and landscape analysis exercise was conducted later in the year to inform CSONA mechanisms to be used when engaging with district level platforms as well as district coordination structures, for instance District Nutrition Coordinating Committees (DNCC). This work is to inform the secretariat how it should operate and build district capacities given the previous challenges CSONA faced in sustaining district level platforms. A draft report has been developed and a dissemination meeting is to be conducted early 2016.

Through collaboration with SCUI, GMT and the ACTION-RESULTS foundation, CSONA held a 2-day nutrition champion skills building workshop with the aim of identifying mechanisms at which CSOs and parliamentarians can fully engage as nutrition champions at district level and feed into the national level. The workshop had 30 CSONA members, 13 Members of Parliament (MPs) in attendance that included representatives from the Parliamentary Committee on Nutrition, HIV/AIDS, and Parliamentary Committee on Budget & Finance as well as Gender & Social committee. The workshop had Ms Graca Machel as the guest of honour who reiterated the key messages and asks around N4G, Cost of Hunger studies in Malawi and the special 1000 days. As a major outcome of the nutrition champion building workshop, MPs signed nutrition pledge cards to elevate nutrition on the development agenda towards the Road to Rio in 2016. Further MPs agreed to provide an enabling environment for CSONA and the parliamentary committee to engage and dialogue and develop an engagement road map for MPs and CSOs towards the Road to Rio.

Later during the year, in conjunction with Save the Children, a 3-day CSONA member Budget analysis Workshop and 3 day budget tracking exercise was organized. The workshop aimed to build skills of CSONA members both at district and national level in analysing national and district level budgets to track investments in nutrition as a social accountability measure and also to hold government accountable for the N4G commitments. After the workshop, CSONA secretariat and a team from SCUI headed out to carry out a preliminary budget tracking exercise in Mwanza and Nsanje districts. Notably during the budget tracking exercise was nutrition not being feature highly in the DDP in both districts but it appears in two key sectors Agriculture and Health as nutrition

sensitive interventions but not specific, hence there's no district nutrition budget but sector budgets. This is an on-going exercise in 2016 which is form part of the evidence based advocacy in tracking nutrition investments.

Two exchange visits were held between Ntchisi and Zomba districts as well as Malawi and Zambia to enable cross learning and knowledge exchange. The district level exchange visits aimed at promoting communication, learning of best practices and knowledge sharing among implementing partners, as well as identify capacities that would ensure that levels of coordination are harnessed through strategic partnership in order to create a nutrition impact at the district and community levels. A similar exchange visit was organized for Zambia. Zambia Civil Society Organisation Scaling up Nutrition (CSO-SUN) and Mumbwa DNCC are some of the structures that are vibrant in terms of coordination, communication and advocacy on nutrition in Southern Africa. CSONA secretariat and Concern Worldwide jointly planned for an exchange learning visit to Zambia to learn from Mumbwa District DNCC and CSO-SUN secretariat in Lusaka. The findings and next steps will be shared amongst members at the national nutrition platforms early in 2016.

Advocacy

CSONA carried out, and contributed to, a number of advocacy events over the year. CSONA wrote a letter to the Permanent Representative for Malawi in New York for the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) negotiations which happened on the March 27th 2015 in New York. The letter called to action Malawi government to maintain a strong position on nutrition and an inclusion of all 6 World Health Assembly Nutrition Target indicators within the SDF framework. The letter which was sent to the Minister of Health as well as the Council of Non-Governmental organization in Malawi (CONGOMA), who are hosting the CSO conversation on the SDGs in Malawi, was forwarded to the delegates for the negotiations.

In June, a lobby meeting was held with MPs during the 2015 National Budget Sitting. The aim of the meeting was establish an interface and build relationships with MPs for future engagement as well as present the preliminary results from CSO annual Budget analysis exercise and highlight the progress this far as it relates to Malawi's commitment to the N4G. With 20 representatives from the Parliamentary Committee on Nutrition, HIV/AIDS as well as 8 chair persons from the Parliamentary Committee on Budget & Finance, Agriculture, Health and Gender & Social committees the next steps agreed upon were to; develop a clear MP roadmap with benchmarks to help the Parliamentary Committees to monitor Nutrition budget allocation. This continued growth in engagement was displayed in the nutrition champion building workshop held in August 2015 where 13 MPs from Parliamentary Committee on Nutrition, Budget and Social Welfare signed pledges to elevate what Malawi need to cement and commit to in the N4G Road to Rio. Following the champion building workshop, MPs went on a fact finding mission in 4 districts (Ntchisi, Blantyre, Kasungu and Mchinji) with the aim to appreciate first hand nutrition situation and to learn about the existing challenges and gaps negatively affecting efforts to reduce malnutrition.

Through support from Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III Project (FANTA), DNHA is being supported to develop mechanisms for national level nutrition advocacy activities. The national nutrition advocacy initiative is aimed to identifying priority nutrition advocacy issues in the broader context, utilizing existing information and knowledge to frame advocacy cases. Nutrition activities and priorities would be very much be guided by the need and/or stakeholders. To this effect the DNHA established an 8 member policy advisory team in which CSONA, Academia and donors network are members. To date a nutrition advocacy planning workshop was held late last year to

develop a National Nutrition Advocacy Plan where CSONA features on specific roles and responsibilities as fed from its Advocacy and communication strategy.

As a result of overlaps in nutrition reporting from the various sectors towards the flood disaster, a nutrition cluster was established to plan a nutrition disaster response. The cluster which is coordinated by DNHA is monitoring and gathering nutrition data through the use of different tools and other stakeholders as well. CSONA is sharing the information to its members and encouraging member to update the secretariat. The nutrition cluster has transitioned a multi-sectorial platform that updates on emergency situation and informs stakeholders on nutrition emergency situation in Malawi.

A press was organized to create hype before the Global Day of Action and to raise awareness amongst media houses on the importance of nutrition. The aim of the conference was country and to build momentum and commitment on coverage of this year's GDA by the media. The event had a panel of representative from DNHA, the DoNuts Group as well as the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Nutrition who was the guest of honor and the Chairman of the National Media Association of Malawi. As an outcome of the event CSONA was featured in 2 national radio programs, 3 times on the national TV station during headline news and 4 electronic media¹

Through support from the Graca Machel Trust, CSONA secretariat and a member attended the Easter Global Nutrition Report (GNR) launch in Dar es Salaam which aimed to create visibility among East African countries as a way of starting engagement at regional level. The meeting had representatives (CSO, Government, Donors, business media and academia) from 7 countries (Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya and Malawi). Prior to the meeting a Civil Society Alliance (CSA) meeting was held as a strategic planning meeting among CSO representatives aimed to cross learning on; working together – shared objectives and shared tactics, mobilizing and protecting funds for nutrition, mobilizing pledges – nutrition for growth and achieving the World Health Assembly Targets by 2025. Discussions on how to better engage at a regional level and ensure that there is added level of accountability were made done thoroughly including challenges that individual CSA in specific countries were shared. The meeting offered a space and opportunity for cross country learning as well as networks for future collaborations. To date these collaborations have emerged through platforms such as the SUN Global Gathering and the planned 2016 Southern Africa Global Nutrition Report Launch which is coordinated by GMT.

CSONA attended the Right to food research dissemination meeting held by Civil Society Agriculture Network (CISANET) aimed to report on gaps in the two draft bills- food security bill vs the nutrition Bill. The nutrition bill is drafted by DNHA whilst the Food security bill was developed by OXFAM, CADECOM, Action Aid, Human rights commission who received funds from UNDP). While the report recommended the two bills be merged because they share a common goal and similarities, CSONA voiced concerns on the merge being retrogressive of 'swallowing' the importance and prominence of nutrition security especially in an environment where the country still views food security as equal to nutrition security. To date CSONA now was asked to sit on the UN Right to Food Steering Committee meeting as crucial network to ensure that there are no oversights of the inclusion of the nutrition agenda.

CSONA was part of the 5 member delegation that attended the 2015 Scaling-Up-Nutrition (SUN) Movement Global Gathering (GG) in Milan, Italy. The GG set out to take stock of achievements in

¹<http://www.manaonline.gov.mw/index.php/national/health/item/2917-malawi-govt-pledges-continued-support-towards-nutritional-activities>; <http://www.apanews.net/>; <http://www.starafrika.com/>; <http://www.allafrica.com>

the last year, lesson learns, best practices as well sharpen a vision for the future as it SUN movement renewed strategy (SUN 2.) and the road map for 2016-2020. The movement had representatives from 55 countries of which 39 had civil society representation in their delegation which was a 16% increase from 2014 GG. This showed a greater recognition of the important role of civil society in SUN efforts and indicator of Civil Society Alliances being strong, valid and influential in SUN countries. CSONA great reflections on Nutrition in the SDGs. CSONA gave a perspective of the role Civil Society from Malawi as well a range of countries has played during the Post 2015 agenda, the opportunities that exist as well as what needs to happen in country as contextualization takes place.

Communications

Under the revised budget, the focus of outcome 3 has been shifted to communication, awareness building and media engagement, with the aim of reaching the general public with messages around nutrition. CSONA has been highlighted in the media throughout the year through its press briefing around the Global day of Action, after the global day of action, its engagement with MPs and the nutrition champion building workshop of which Ms Graca Machel was the guest of honor. CSONA has been highlighted on global websites such as the HANCI blog, the SUN global website.

In May, following a press briefing conference CSONA organized an open day event in collaboration and support from its members including World Vision, Progressio, and Plan Malawi to raise awareness around nutrition as part of the Global Day of Action towards nutrition. Participants together the Minister of Agriculture who was the guest of honor inspected marquees of 6 CSONA members who had set out pavilions showcasing their nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive strategies and practices. Key messages for the event were reiterated around the SDGs, N4G and 1000 Special days.

A CSONA nutrition promotional video was aired on the national TV station for 2 months during news hour around the National budget sitting in June and July 2015. The video which had a general call to action on the different roles people have to play to advance nutrition was developed in 2014. Later in September, shots of new video were taken and this time specifically on the N4G. The video is expected to be completed in January 2016. Several advocacy materials were developed around the advocacy initiatives as tactics to support advocacy agenda. For instance, during the Global Day of Action, banners, leaflets and t-shirts were developed with the key messages on including nutrition on the national development agenda. For the MP engagement meetings CSONA developed a comparative mapping of the N4G commitments of East-Southern African countries and district scorecards which helped to contextualize stunting levels and generated interest amongst the MPs as constituency representatives. A CSONA bulletin was developed and shared amongst members as well as government and donors.

CSONA actively engages in social media and has a Twitter account which started off with 66 followers in January 2015 and has risen to 263 followers in December 2015 from both international and local NGOs as well as CSAs, movements and individuals in the nutrition community. At the moment, CSONA's media outreach is still on a small scale, and unlikely to have contributed to detectable shifts in public opinion on knowledge. It is envisaged that once a Communication and Advocacy Officer is in place, CSONA plans to develop a comprehensive communications strategy will greatly increase its media outreach.

II. Resources

Financial Resources:

Though the Children Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) project which is being facilitated by Save the Children Malawi, a consensus building workshop took place mid-March. The aim workshop was to agree on activities that will be carried out based on the goals of the project. With a total funding of 649,85USD from May 2015 to December 2017, SCUI is facilitating a project aimed to pursue 4 out of the 7 N4G made by the Malawi Government. Save the Children International aims to facilitate the project through CSONA. Discussions are still underway on partnerships and agreements.

CSONA has received support through GMT over the course of the year around capacity building and leveraging voices as well as building relationships at a regional level. GMT supported CSONA to attend the East African Global Nutrition Report launch in Dar es Salaam and the RESULTS international Conference and workshop in Washington DC.

In August 2015, CSONA applied for a No-cost Extension (NCE) which was approved late December 2015 by the MPTF Secretariat. The NCE was based on As such, we are requesting the program to be extended for an additional 12 months in order to clear out the remaining activities and for the core project staff to possibly access further funding to ensure CSONA's sustainability. Through Concern Worldwide, CSONA has applied for the New Venture fund for nutrition advocacy.

III. Implementation and Monitoring Arrangements

CSONA is a coalition of organizations and networks and it is primarily supported and informed by its members and partners on what advocacy agenda's to take. CSONA's current memberships comprises 36 members implementing projects including nutrition, health, agriculture, governance, gender, education as well as water and sanitation. Given the political environment, for CSONA to fully push public opinion and influence government policies, it has to operate as an independent institution other than a loose platform. In this regard, within the concept it was envisioned that CSONA would transition into an independent legal entity outside of Concern Worldwide realms. To date, CSONA has submitted its constitution which was endorsed by the BOD.

From its constitution, CSONA's BOD is to provide strategy, monitor and supervise the affairs of the secretariat. Revamping of the BOD has taken longer than expected especially with the challenges met with registration. Concern Worldwide as the administrator of the MPTF fund; have chaired CSONA throughout the project duration. Late last year however a vetted BOD met to map out how they foresee CSONA functioning in future and strategies that need to take place as CSONA transitions to its independency. Although fully outlined, the governance structures have taken time to be fully operationalized. Registration has proven to be a process rather than a once off activity. Expressed by its members as well as other stakeholders, CSONA's identity might be obscured and its impact limited if it is not properly registered. Lack of registration may also hamper funding opportunities for CSONA which would enable it to gain institutional systems for running grant funds. Another risk noted is that lack of registration means that CSONA has no legal backing which limits its influence on the national level as well as participation of its members.

Moving forward in 2016, engagement with the board will be strengthened in the strategic decision making process of CSONA's affairs. Towards 2016, the BOD together with the Secretariat is to nominate a steering committee made up of 4 members who will provide technical support to CSONA secretariat. The secretariat continues to coordinate national and district level nutrition platforms activities as is guided by the Advocacy and Communication Strategy.

At the national level CSONA secretariat is a member of multi-sectorial platform, the National Nutrition Committee, SUN taskforce, Nutrition Cluster, Policy Advisory Team and quite recently the UN steering group in advancing the right to food. These platforms provide an enabling environment and opportunities for CSONA to influence as well coordinate where convenient for its members to be part of. CSONA continues to plug itself in other existing platform and/or alliances, for instance the wide civil society networks such as Malawi Economic Justice Network (MEJN), CISANET amongst other to enable entry points in national agendas and form alliances. Civil society coordination efforts at district level have taken longer than expected. CSONA has established district nutrition platforms in 7 districts (Dedza, Mchinji, Nsanje, Nkhhotakota, Ntcheu, Zomba and Balaka) where members from a range of NGOs and CBOs meet to identify areas of collaboration for effective advocacy. Several of these district nutrition platforms have been established within a generic CSO network that works as an advocacy unit within the district. Where districts have functional DNCC, CSONA explores ways in which CSONA can plug its advocacy initiatives as well as ways in which they can be strengthened. However the link between the generic CSOs and the DNCC remain weak and non-collaborated. Without a mapping exercise to fully understand the landscape and potential areas of coordination, the coordination at district level still remains a challenge. Several CSONA members have taken the lead to facilitate meetings at district level through their respective district officers. Understanding models that work is crucial in ensuring that nutrition communities of practice are delivered in a harmonized and coordinated manner.

In this regard a capacity assessment was conducted to assess the existing nutrition capacities of CSOs and inter-sectorial nutrition coordination structures at district level in Malawi. The assessment aims to assist to understand the landscape as well as identifying CSO coordination models that work within the framework of the Nutrition Education Communication Strategy (NECS) as well as identify capacities to ensure that levels of coordination are harnessed through strategic partnership in order to create nutrition impact at national, district and community level. It is envisioned that the assessment will be important to understand gaps in terms of geographic coverage and programmes that are undertaken by CSOs in Malawi and identify lead CSOs for CSONA to engage fully at district level and exercise its mandate. A dissemination meeting for this exercise is scheduled the beginning of next year. Alongside annual plans and a monitoring and evaluation framework that are reviewed quarterly, as part of Concern Worldwide's internal systems, CSONA goes through an internal audit process that provides the major risk associated with project implementation and these are reviewed periodically to inform on major risks and aspects to be incorporated in the following planning session.

IV. Results

Since the 2014 budget revision that focussed on realigning activities and adding others to reflect the need on the ground more accurately, implementation of plans has accelerated. The Monitoring and Evaluation framework developed reflects achievement made to date. For instance the capacity building outcome target for March 2016 is to have a minimum of 8 CSOs involved in national level events and by the end 2015 6 members attended 7 major CSONA events consistently. Two out of four members as per target supported CSONA financially in the Global Day of Action that was organized in one of the district level. Although registration has not yet been approved, a constitution that governs CSONA is in place and registration forms have been submitted and it is expected a certificate of registration will be obtained early next year. A BOD is in place and met end 2015 to map out a way forward. Through CSONA applied for a new venture fund for nutrition advocacy towards N4G in Rio to complement its work for 2017. Three advocacy and communication workshop trainings were organized that focused on advocacy, budget analysis and nutrition

champion skills. A the district capacity assessment and landscape analysis exercise report is to further inform capacity building need for district level structures in 2016. Two exchange visits were conducted; one in country between Zomba and Ntchisi districts and the second between Zambia and Malawi to enhance cross learning.

As for the advocacy outcomes not a lot of progress has been established to push public opinion. However underlying processes have started to start advancing nutrition for instance the two engagements meeting with MPs where 13 MPs pledged to become nutrition champions. These MPs were part of the fact finding missions that will continue most part of 2016. CSONA is part of 4 key national level working groups that assist in providing opportunity to dialogue and engage with decision makers for instance, the National Nutrition Committee, Nutrition Policy Advisory group, UN Steering group committee on Advancing right to food and the Nutrition Cluster group. CSONA had a number of articles and media coverage around the global day of action. However engagement with media has not been consist and has led to CSONA not being visible enough to start swaying public opinion. It was hoped that the Advocacy and Communication Advisor from the partnership with Progressio would enhance this activity. However with the challenges recruitment left CSONA overwhelmed with other activities. Moving forward this is an area CSONA needs to build its capacity and use as a tactic for influencing policy. This is better stipulated within CSONA's advocacy and Communication strategy which has focus areas.

To date CSONA has developed 2 promotional video. One the video has been strategically aired on the national TV station during the global day of action and annual parliamentary sitting. A number of advocacy materials have been developed with key messages during key moment's e.g. global day of action and nutrition champion skills workshop. From the 3 targeted CSONA bulletin only on bulletin was produced, another area that needs to be strengthened through the addition of the Advocacy & Communication Advisor from Progressio. CSONA held a press briefing and open day event during the Global day of action which was attended by the Donor Nutrition Network Chair, the Government focal point and the Minister of Agriculture. The twitter page on CSONA has 237 tweets is followed by 273 twitter users from all over the world including Malawi. CSONA's is tagged or retweeted more than 4 times a week.

Collaborations and partnerships amongst members helped CSONA mobilize resources to enhance its work. For instance GMT is key to CSONA as they help build capacities of CSOs to enable them to leverage voices at a national and regional level. Save the Children International has supported and contributed to CSONA's advocacy strategy and are key allies for advocacy initiatives. Relationship with RESULTS foundation has proven to grow as there is support to build capacity of CSONA as a secretariat and amongst its members. By providing an open and enabling environment, the relationship with DNHA and the Donor Nutrition Network has grown over the year where CSONA is entrusted with advocacy issues to advance.

V. Future Work Plan

Building the institutional capacity and strengthening the governance structure will be key in 2016 to ensure that CSONA is able to transitions smoothly as an independent entity. Activities will include but not limited to enhancing CSONA's visibility, BOD engagement, strategic planning workshops, fund raising and the development of institutional systems to enable CSONA access funding for the next 2 years. Major priority actions for CSONA in 2016 are focused on developing an overall short organizational strategy, implementing of the Advocacy and Communication strategy and establishing a comprehensive monitoring tool and database that tracks dialogue meetings, representation of participants, quotes, and media articles that either support or oppose the nutrition issue. This will further help CSONA map out advocacy processes and their outcomes as

they cascade upon one another before and after Rio N4G2. Additionally, annual tracking tools such as the Global Nutrition Report (GNR) country profiles, the Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index (HANCI) and the Global Hunger Index (GHI) will be used to inform progress and establish accountability towards the N4G and the WHA nutrition targets. An attached Excel document provides detailed activities and timelines.

