

Quarterly Member Newsletter

May 2016



Greetings from the SUN CSA Myanmar Secretariat

Greetings SUN CSA members and supporters! We are pleased to share our quarterly newsletter, which includes updates on our achievements in the last quarter and information related to upcoming activities, events and opportunities.

Thank you for your kind attention and support!

The SUN CSA, as one of the networks of the SUN Movement in Myanmar, aims to be **a catalyst for sustained public, political and financial commitment and action to address undernutrition** in Myanmar through the continued development of **a strong, coordinated civil society constituency** that supports further development and wider implementation of the nutrition agenda.

We look forward to working with you to scale up nutrition in Myanmar!

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New member organizations

The SUN CSA Myanmar is now composed of **51 different civil society organizations**, 36 local NGOs, 13 international NGOs, and 2 semi-autonomous government associations working in seven states and regions. Please join us in welcoming four new local organizations that joined the CSA this quarter:

- Ayeik Social Work Association
- Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC)
- Community Health and Development (CHAD)
- Myanmar Consumer Union (MCU)

Monitoring the Order of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

The SUN CSA Myanmar is continuing to strengthen implementation and monitoring of the “Order of Marketing of Formulated Food for Infant and Young Child.” After a successful Training of Trainers (ToT) for master trainers in December, the CSA has started rolling out training to community based organizations (CBOs) and communities around the country.

Training of Trainers (ToT) for community-based organizations

During this quarter, the SUN CSA Myanmar successfully conducted four Training of Trainers (ToTs) on Monitoring the Myanmar Order with the following CBOs:

- Rhododendron Integrated Development (RID) in Mindat, Chin State (March 2-4, 2016), co-facilitated with Plan Myanmar;
- Chan Myae Metta Cooperative Society (CMMCS) in Taungup, Rakhine State (March 14-16, 2016), co-facilitated with World Vision Myanmar;
- Freeland Organization in Lashio, Shan State (April 2-4, 2016), co-facilitated with Sympathy Hands Organization;
- Green Network in Magway, Magway Region (May 23-25, 2016), co-facilitated with Plan Myanmar Organization;

The goal of each of each three-day ToT is to equip CBO staff and volunteers with the knowledge and skills they need to monitor the Order and to train others to monitor.



Community-level training on the Order

Also during this quarter, the SUN CSA has supported RID, Freeland and CMMCS to conduct community-level training on the Myanmar Order. In order to strengthen these activities, the Secretariat conducted supportive supervision visits to each organization and provided IEC materials for organizations to share with community members during training.



Real-time monitoring and routine reporting of Order violations

The SUN CSA continues to support monitoring and analysis of violations against the Myanmar Order reported through the Kobo Collect mobile application. To date, the CSA has submitted two reports summarizing key violations to the National Nutrition Center (NNC) and other stakeholders. Based on recommendations from NNC and UNICEF, the Secretariat is currently developing a simpler, more user-friendly reporting format that will be submitted to the Technical Working Group (TWG) and other relevant stakeholders quarterly.

Capacity building on nutrition for CSA members

The SUN CSA Myanmar has been working with the Leveraging Essential Actions to Reduce Malnutrition (LEARN) Program to train CSA members on basic nutrition. To date, three trainings have been conducted in Yangon, and representatives from **32 organizations** have participated in the training.



SUN CSA Steering Committee Elections 2016

The SUN CSA Steering Committee provides guidance and technical support to the Secretariat and to the general assembly. Steering Committee members meet regularly and devote a portion of their time each month to enhancing the functioning of the CSA. In addition to their responsibilities, Steering Committee members have the opportunity to liaise with other SUN Networks in Myanmar and to learn from the experiences of other countries through regular updates from the global SUN Movement.

In order to ensure adequate representation of all civil society organizations in the Alliance, elections for a new Steering Committee, composed of representatives from 10 organizations, will be held in May 2016. We encourage all CSA members to submit their nominations and participate in the general election!

Exchange visit opportunity for CBOs

During this quarter, the SUN CSA supported the following exchange visits between civil society organizations in order to foster cross-learning and strengthen coordination among CSA members:

- Myanmar Enhancement to Empower Tribal (MEET) visited the Myanmar Nurse and Midwives Association (MNMA) in Rakhine State;
- Rhododendron Farmers Association (RFA) (Chin) visited Green Network in Magway Region;
- Zewaka (Shan) visited Myanmar Baptist Convention (MBC) in Ayeyarwaddy Region.

In June, May Doe Arr Man (Ayeyarwaddy) will visit the Terre Des Hommes (TDH) Italia field office in Magway Region;

Visiting organizations will submit a report to the Secretariat at the conclusion of each exchange visit, and these reports will be shared with all CSA members. To those CBOs that were not selected to conduct an exchange visit during this round of applications— there will be another opportunity to submit an application later this year!



SUN CSA participates in meeting to strengthen the Myanmar SUN Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MS-MSP)

On March 25th, 2016, the SUN CSA participated in a meeting to strengthen and formalize the organization of the MS-MSP in order to enhance its functioning. During this meeting, SUN Networks reviewed the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the MS-MSP and provided input on the organizational structure, membership, operational procedures and work plan. Each network was also asked to give an update on their current activities and future plans. The next MS-MSP meeting is expected to take place in Naypyitaw in June.

Updates from the SUN Movement

On May 9th, the SUN CSA Myanmar participated in the 23rd SUN Movement Country Network teleconference entitled “Building and Sustaining Political Commitment for Nutrition Action.” The purpose of this teleconference was to draw upon the experiences of policymakers, nutrition leaders, program managers, and implementers in making decisions that sustain political commitment for nutrition. Presentations from the Philippines and Laos as well as discussions among SUN Country Networks underscored the important role of nutrition champions and tailored advocacy messages on why nutrition must be prioritized and how this can be done.

Framework for investing in nutrition

On 17 April 2016, the first ever framework for investing in nutrition was launched by the World Bank, Results for Development Institute, and 1,000 Days in Washington D.C. The event represents the start to a broader dissemination of the framework that identifies that an additional \$7 billion per year for the next 10 years is needed to reach four of the six global nutrition targets of the World Health Assembly. The first-of-its-kind analysis of the global resources relates to the stunting, breastfeeding, anemia, and wasting targets.

For more information on this framework, please visit <http://thousanddays.org/resource/investing-in-nutrition/>.

First ever Lancet Series on Breastfeeding launched

On 29 January 2016, The Lancet Breastfeeding Series was launched at The Kaiser Family Foundation Conference Center in Washington D.C. The Series is the first of its kind to evaluate global breastfeeding levels, trends and inequalities, in addition to the short and long-term consequences for both mother and child, regardless of where they live or their income. The Series underscores the importance of policy interventions to increase and sustain breastfeeding levels.

For more information and to access the articles, please visit the Lancet website here: <http://www.thelancet.com/series/breastfeeding>

Please visit the SUN Movement website for the latest news and updates: <http://scalingupnutrition.org/>.

Updates from SUN Civil Society Network (CSN)

In April 2016, the SUN Civil Society Network launched an online resource for national Civil Society Alliances to start planning for sustainability, strengthen their fundraising capacity, share experiences and secure long term financial support. Through the support of GIZ and the SUN Movement Multi-Partner Trust Fund, the online resource includes a Fundraising Tool Kit and Learning from others and invites feedback via a survey and also through the SUN en-net discussion forum.

The resource aims to:

- Develop CSAs’ fundraising knowledge and confidence
- Share fundraising good practice between CSAs at different stages
- Equip all CSAs with the knowledge, tools and skills to improve their fundraising and to achieve long term financial sustainability.

To access these resources, **which are also useful for NGOs looking to increase their sustainability**, and to learn more about the role of civil society in the SUN Movement, please visit the SUN CSN blog:

<http://suncivilsociety.net.wix.com/suncsnblog>



Coming up this quarter

Key activities for the SUN CSA in the upcoming quarter include:

- Nominations and elections for a new Steering Committee;
- SUN Movement joint assessment exercise in Naypyitaw;
- Basic nutrition training for CSA members who have not yet received the training from LEARN;

Nutrition knowledge sharing event and Global Nutrition Report (GNR) launch, tentatively scheduled for September 2016.

Interested in becoming a member of the SUN CSA? Any additional questions or feedback?

Please contact us!

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