
Programme Title:	SCALING UP NUTRITION THROUGH A MULTI-SECTOR APPROACH
Country:	Sri Lanka

I. Joint Programme Information

Joint Programme Information

Programme title:

SCALING UP NUTRITION THROUGH A MULTI-SECTOR APPROACH

Sectorial area of intervention and policy objectives

Food security and nutrition

Integrated approaches for alleviating child hunger and undernutrition.

Strengthen capacities to generate information through assessment, monitoring and evaluation.

UN Lead Agency:

World Food Programme (WFP)

UN Participating Organizations:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

World Food Programme (WFP)

Local Partners:

- National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NNSL), Presidential Secretariat
- Ministry of Health, Nutrition, and Indigenous Medicine (MoH)
- Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) - National Food Promotion Board (NFPB)
- Ministry of Education (MoEd)
- Ministry of Women & Child Affairs (MoWCA)
- Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs (MoNPEA)
- UNICEF
- Agri-business Centre, University of Peradeniya

Report submitted by

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III. Financial information

Detailed Financial Report:

 [20161130 SDGF JP Financial Monitoring Report on AMENDED Work Plan and Budget.xls](#)

SDG-F Funds

UN Agency	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	749,858.00	749,858.00	83,324.00	306,160.00

UN Agency	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
World Food Programme (WFP)	749,871.00	749,871.00	196,722.00	279,092.00

Total	1,499,729.00	1,499,729.00	280,046.00	585,252.00
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Matching Funds

Name of source	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
Government of Sri Lanka	1,368,752.00	1,368,752.00	543,033.00	825,719.00
WFP	71,728.00	71,728.00	0.00	71,728.00
UNICEF	126,371.00	126,371.00	0.00	126,371.00

Total	1,566,851.00	1,566,851.00	543,033.00	1,023,818.00
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IV. Beneficiaries

Total number of direct beneficiaries to date:

1177284

Direct Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers				
Entrepreneurs				
Civil servants/government	522	238	284	WFP supported the training of 34 male MRI staff and survey enumerators on data and sample collection and field lab sample analysis for the baseline food and nutrition surveys; and involved 80 (25F and 55M) participants in the consultative meeting on the national nutrition surveillance system; FAO conducted 9 workshops on the school nutrition database for 408 management assistants (213F and 195M)
Indigenous				

Children	1,138,887	580,832	558,055	FAO's work on the school nutrition database and the school gardens directly benefits all 1,138,887 school children. In addition, WFP and FAO conducted nutrition education promotion activities in line with the key objective at the National Scout Jamboree on 20-26 Feb, 2016 supporting 8,000 boys and 2,000 girl scouts. MRI also surveyed 8,791 school children for the WFP-supported baseline nutrition survey.
Youth	260	148	112	WFP supported the National Youth Model United Nations conference in August 2016 by providing flyers and banners on SDGs.
Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW)	14,762	14,762		PLW participated in the baseline survey conducted by MRI
Civil Society / Community	21,000	10,710	10,290	FAO provided nutrition promotion information to the MoEd stall at the exhibition on a Toxin-Free Nation organized by the Presidential Secretariat on March 6-8, 2016
ToTs for pre-schools including ECCD, WDO, CRPO officers	129	86	43	FAO supported 4 ToT workshops on pre-school nutrition
Pre-school teachers	566	562	4	FAO supported pre-school teacher trainings on nutrition
Education specialists on school nutrition and school gardens	1,158	720	448	Zonal-level trainings on school nutrition and ToT programmes on secondary school nutrition were supported by FAO ToT workshops on school gardens were conducted in each of the 9 provinces for in-service advisors of agriculture and nutrition, teachers, and zonal education directors with FAO support
Total	1,177,284	608,058	569,236	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations	3.00	WFP supported technical and institutional capacity development for the Medical Research Institute (MRI) relevant to the national baseline surveys on food and nutrition. WFP also supports the technical and capacity development of the National Food Promotion Board (NFPB), MoAg for rice fortification and provides technical capacity development for the Thripasha factory (MoH) to improve the quality of Thripasha (a locally-fortified blended food).

Private sector		
Community-based organizations		
NGOs		
Schools	10,144	All government/national schools benefit through the school nutrition and health promotion database and up to 6,000 of these schools will also benefit from school gardening through the ToT and implementation efforts. To date, 439 schools have been trained on school gardening. And the baseline nutrition survey conducted by MRI included students from 262 schools across the country.
Total	10,147	

Indirect Beneficiaries - Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers				
Entrepreneurs				
Civil servants/government				
Indigenous				
Children	1,138,887	580,832.00	558,055.00	Cohort of all school children indirectly benefitted by national baseline nutrition survey
Youth				
Pregnant and Lactating Women	810,886	810,886.00	0.00	Cohort of national population indirectly benefitted by PLW baseline nutrition survey
Total	1,949,773	1,391,718.00	558,055.00	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations	4.00	The four implementing ministries
Private sector	4	Service providers of meeting facilities; partner for procuring fortified rice kernels for the pilot programme; and technical support to the consulting firm for the rice fortification landscape analysis.
Community-based organizations	1	The Scaling Up Nutrition People's Forum (SUN-PF) participated in the consultative workshop for food fortification held in July 2015
NGOs		

Academia	7	Academics from 2 national universities were involved in presenting research conducted in under-nutrition and in providing inputs regarding the design of the pilot programme for food fortification Academics from 5 national universities were involved in the preparation of Nutrition supplementary documents
Total	16	

Any other information regarding JP beneficiaries*:

The 14,762 participants of the PLW baseline survey are considered direct beneficiaries and the general population of the country comprising PLW (i.e., 810,886) are considered indirect beneficiaries of the national baseline survey on PLW food and nutrition.

The 8,791 participants of the school-children baseline nutrition survey are considered direct beneficiaries (51% of which were girls) and all 1,138,887 school-in the country are considered indirect beneficiaries. WFP supported the Nutrition Coordination Division (NCD) of the Ministry of Health to conduct a consultative meeting to review the indicators for the National Nutrition Surveillance System on the 18th and 19th of February, 2016. 80 participants contributed to the meeting, including 55 women and 25 men.

FAO conducted a series of workshops through the island nation for training and orientating users on the school health and nutrition database. A total of 9 workshops were held; one for each province between January and March 2016. A total of 408 Division and Zonal level Management Assistants (213 women and 195 men) were trained on the database in all 9 provinces of the country. Two follow up trainings were conducted for data entry operators with a total of 68 participants (50 male and 18 female) in May 2016. FAO conducted a series of workshops through the island nation for Training of Trainers (ToT) on School Gardens. The ToT workshops have been conducted in each of the 9 provinces with a total of 377 participants (133 women & 244 men) including, in-service advisors of agriculture and nutrition, teachers, and zonal education directors.

Zonal-level trainings on nutrition and school gardens were provided to 705 teachers (531 females and 174 males) from 439 schools in 15 education zones in 4 provinces through training programmes in July and September 2016.

FAO supported MoEd in conducting ToT programmes on nutrition in secondary education with participation from 86 teachers (56 female and 30 male). The Sinhala-medium ToT was conducted in May 2016; the Tamil-medium ToT was conducted in September 2016; and the national-level programme was held at the National Institute of Education, covering all nine provinces.

With the collaboration of NCD, MoH and CS, MoWCA, FAO supported 4 ToT workshops (held in Colombo) on pre-school nutrition with a total of 129 participants (86 female and 43 male) representing all nine provinces by August 2016.

FAO also commenced district-level trainings in nutrition in August 2016 and has completed trainings for 566 pre-school teachers (562 female and 4 male) in 10 out of 25 districts provinces. Low participation of males is due to high ratio of women pre-school teachers in the country.

V. Joint Programme Progress

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.1: Understanding the link between health, food security, food consumption and micronutrient deficiencies for the target group of PLWs and schoolchildren</p>	<p>WFP has been collaborating with the Medical Research Institute (MRI) of MoH since May 2015 on the PLW and school-children baseline surveys.</p> <p>A training was provided to enumerators for the PLW survey before the data collection. The island-wide data collection for the PLW survey commenced in May 2015 and was completed in towards the end of 2015. The survey was conducted from 30 clusters in all 25 districts, and comprised approximately 15,000 survey participants, including 7,500 pregnant women and 7,500 lactating women. Anthropometric measurements, blood hemoglobin, urine iodine, vitamin A, and ferritin level were the parameters of the survey. Food security information was also collected to assess the link between health, nutrition, and food security of the PLW. The vitamin and iodine analysis is ongoing. A data dissemination workshop was conducted on June 30, 2016 and the first report on anthropometry and anaemia is expected to be finalized shortly.</p> <p>The schoolchildren baseline nutrition survey data collection began in July 2016 and was completed in September 2016 for 8,791 students. Training of 8 enumerators was completed prior to data collection. The survey was conducted with students from over 262 schools in all nine provinces. Anthropometric measurements, blood hemoglobin, and urinary iodine were the parameters of the survey. Iodine content of salt and water was also collected. Data entry and analysis is ongoing and a data dissemination workshop is planned for November 2016.</p>	<p>Vitamin A and urine iodine sample analysis is getting delayed due to lack of technical staff in the MRI lab. Data clearance and compiling process is also dragging unexpectedly due to some issues with the data quality. Progress review meetings are being held every month to discuss the issues and to decide the remedial actions.</p> <p>The school survey commenced in July 2016; however, due to upcoming exams and then school holidays, data collection for two districts was postponed to September 2016.</p>	<p>The PLW data was disseminated to stakeholders at workshop at the MRI auditorium on June 30, 2016. The report is expected to be finalized within the last quarter of 2016.</p> <p>The schoolchildren data is expected to be disseminated following completion of data entry and analysis in November 2016 and the report is expected to be finalized in early 2017.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.2: Identification of cost efficient and most efficient use of fortified foods to address existing micro-nutrient deficiencies including distribution mechanism (schools, health centres and/or schools)</p>	<p>The ToR for the pilot programme to assess the acceptability and feasibility for rice fortification was finalized with the inputs from the established Technical Advisory Group (TAG) members, including government counterparts.</p> <p>A newspaper advertisement was published in April 2016 calling for Eols from potential partners to implement pilot programme. Few applicants were shortlisted based on initial selection criteria and request for proposal (RfP) document was prepared for issuing to qualified candidates in May 2016.</p> <p>A Technical Evaluation Committee was appointed by the TAG for reviewing the submitted proposals. The University of Peradeniya was selected as the research partner. Following some revisions to the proposal per the recommendations of the TAG, the agreement was signed with the University in September 2016. Preparation work for the pilot study, including recruitment of data collection team, development of data collection tools and others are in progress.</p> <p>The National Food Promotion Board (NFPB) of MoAg will serve as the blending and packing facility for the fortified rice for the pilot study. An assessment was conducted by the WFP regional rice fortification expert to assess the existing technical and logistical capacity of the NFPB. A blending trial for producing fortified rice was conducted by the fortification expert to evaluate the blending capacity of NFPB. An agreement between WFP and NFPB was signed on October 13, 2016. Further, an engineering company has been selected through a transparent bidding process to provide a complete technical solution related to rice fortification blending facilities at the NFPB. Procurement of local rice varieties required to produce the fortified rice for the pilot study is completed and procurement of fortified rice kernels (FRK) is underway and expected to arrive in Sri Lanka in early November 2016.</p>	<p>With the delay in obtaining the approval for the programme and budget revisions, and the subsequent deferral in receiving the second tranche of funds (due mainly to local process constraints) , the release of the purchase orders for the necessary fortificants and fortification equipment was somewhat delayed. It is expected that NFPB will use their existing equipment to blend and pack the fortified rice for the pilot study and the equipment procured will transition into this role for the study and will continue to serve as an upgrade to their facility.</p> <p>The use of folic acid as one of the fortificants was questioned by the national health authorities, and as a result, the technical sub-committee was appointed by the national nutrition steering committee to review evidence to take a decision on this. It was finally recommended to use folic acid as a fortificant with iron. As part of this pilot WFP advocated and provided evidence to MoH to support inclusion of folic acid as a fortificant for future scale up.</p> <p>Due to the complex procurement of the FRK from China through the WFP Regional Bureau, the arrival of the FRK in country will be later than initially expected. Through the multi-sectoral collaboration of the Government of Sri Lanka, we are ensured that the customs clearance process for the imported FRK will go smoothly so that implementation of the pilot study can commence shortly thereafter.</p>	<p>A report on the pilot programme on the operational feasibility of rice fortification will be published early 2017, following completion of the research. This report will be helpful to inform and identify the obstacles and issues that may occur in the future plans for scale up of rice fortification as a national nutrition intervention and propose appropriate remedial actions.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.3: Review of the capacity for the in-country production of fortified rice</p>	<p>The project played strong advocacy role to convince the government of the need of a national-level Technical Advisory Group (TAG) with the technical authority and responsibility for guiding the food fortification process of the country and making all decisions related to the national fortification process. WFP continues to support the monthly meetings of the TAG, while playing an active role as a member.</p> <p>In addition to collaborating with NFPB for the rice fortification pilot programme, necessary support will be provided to NFPB to strengthen their capacity to serve as the national model blending facility for rice fortification in Sri Lanka.</p> <p>A private firm, Research Intelligence Unit (RIU), was selected to conduct the landscape analysis for rice fortification. Data collection was completed in April 2016 through stakeholder interviews and focus group discussions. Consultancy services of a technical expert from the WFP Regional Bureau Bangkok were obtained to support RIU in the landscape analysis. The international expert completed missions in February and May 2016 to assist in the inception phase of the analysis and provide input to the report writing. Further, the regional expert for rice fortification from the WFP regional bureau also conducted a mission in June 2016 to support the landscape analysis reporting. WFP regional bureau provided financial support to cover part of the cost of the landscape analysis.</p> <p>The rice fortification TAG also contributed to the landscape analysis by providing their comments on the draft inception report and the presentation conducted by RIU at one of the monthly TAG meetings in February 2016. The TAG will further support the landscape analysis by providing their comments and review on the draft final report.</p>	<p>Since the landscape analysis for rice fortification is a totally new study area for the country, it was difficult to find an experienced implementing partner for the study. With the recommendation of the Ministry of Health and the TAG, a local research firm, RIU, was selected to conduct the study. The WFP Country Office tapped into the support of the Regional Bureau for international expertise from their consultant for rice fortification landscape analyses. The international consultant conducted a mission and many virtual meetings to guide RIU in obtaining and processing relevant information for the study in February and May 2016. Further, the regional expert for rice fortification from the WFP regional bureau also conducted a mission in June 2016 to support the landscape analysis reporting.</p> <p>WFP and the TAG continued to provide feedback to RIU to improve the content and quality of the report, but the firm did not have the required capacity to effectively complete the task and produce the required deliverable. A smaller group of the TAG members met again in September 2016 to critically review the document and it was agreed that WFP and the TAG will take the task upon themselves to finalize the deliverable.</p>	<p>The final report of the landscape analysis is expected in December 2016. The findings of the landscape analysis will help to understand the rice supply chain of the country and the possible entry point for the fortification process.</p> <p>Experience sharing of technology and best practices for fortified foods is expected to be arranged via a stakeholder workshop in early 2017 with technology transfer and experience sharing. In addition, the development of a social marketing strategy to create awareness on rice fortification is planned.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.4: Strengthening advocacy for use of fortified locally produced nutritious foods</p>	<p>The TAG takes on an advocacy role in the National Nutrition Steering Committee of the Ministry of Health to obtain nation-level support for the technical decisions related to fortification. Further, the representatives of the TAG met with the Minister of Agriculture to brief him on the national roadmap for fortification and obtain his support.</p> <p>WFP continues to advocate for the finalization of the national fortification policy directives that were drafted.</p> <p>NNSSL conducts meetings on the MSAPN for national, regional, and district stakeholders.</p> <p>While activities under this output are ongoing; the proposed work plan and budget revisions remove the SDGF allocation for these activities while GoSL matching fund commitment remains.</p>		<p>National policy direction on food fortification will be approved and published; this will help to technically guide and streamline future fortification activities in the country.</p>
<p>JP Output 1.5: Increased awareness of the inter-linkage of health, and nutrition food security as a national development priority at all levels</p>	<p>WFP is supporting the Nutrition Coordination Division, MoH in updating its information management system (IMS) for the nutrition sector of the country. As a first step, a workshop was organized in February 2016 to review the existing indicators of the National Nutrition Surveillance System and develop more realistic reporting indicators.</p> <p>A follow up workshop at the district level to discuss the bottleneck in data collection and progress review will be organized in November 2016.</p>	<p>There are two nutrition surveillance systems currently operating in the country: one under the ownership of the MoH and one under NNSSL. It was not clear which system should be strengthened to continue as a national system. A series of discussions were held with NNSSL and MoH to fine-tune each of the systems to avoid overlap of information.</p>	<p>Revised information management system for the Nutrition Coordination Division of the MoH. A lessons learned workshop may be organized with the central level governmental departments to identify good practices and bottlenecks in information flow, and to prepare an action plan for island-wide scale up</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.6: Agreement reached that an integrated food, health and nutrition policy would assist in achieving zero hunger and reduce poverty</p>	<p>Discussions are underway with MoH to support the process of reviewing national nutrition policy and a number of bilateral meetings were held to plan the way forward. WFP supported MoH to conduct a consultative workshop and policy dialogue with all stakeholders on July 11, 2016 to determine the road map for the National Nutrition Policy review process. The Nutrition Coordination Division (NCD), MoH prepared a ToR and budget and published the tender in September 2016 for a consultant to conduct the review. WFP is also a member of the expert committee appointed by the MoH to select the consultant and monitor the review process. The Scaling Up Nutrition People's Forum (SUN-PF), also consulted WFP in their review of the nutrition policy from a civil society perspective. The report of the SUN-PF review has been published. Also, WFP is separately supporting a Country Strategic Review towards Zero Hunger, which is a comprehensive multi-stakeholder process, which will inform the revised MSAPN and nutrition policy review</p>	<p>Following the consultative policy dialogue organized by the Nutrition Division (ND), MoH, concerns were raised within the Ministry, including the recruitment of a private firm to conduct the review of the National Nutrition Policy. Finally, it was agreed that ND, MoH will lead the process and an external party will be selected to conduct the policy review through an open and competitive bidding process. This clarification caused some delays in the process until the Secretary, MoH agreed that there is no issue in NCD recruiting a private entity to conduct the review. Following the consensus that NCD may lead the review of the National Nutrition Policy, they have taken necessary steps to see it through. Currently, the modality for the transfer of funds for the policy review from WFP to NCD is being explored, including discussion on whether the funds need to be directed through the Treasury.</p>	<p>Recommendations for revising the policy, which will include integration of health, food security, and nutrition, will be put forward by the consultant following the review of the National Nutrition Policy. The ND, MoH will handle the tendering process and serve as the client, with the support of WFP. The recommendations will be submitted to NNSL to inform the development of an updated, integrated, and coordinated, Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN)</p>
<p>JP Output 1.7: Increased availability of local produced fortified food commodities for the general public</p>	<p>WFP has collaborated with the National Food Promotion Board (NFPB) of MoAg to explore local production of fortified foods, including their involvement in the pilot programme for food fortification. WFP, along with the government, also identified the need to support the quality improvement of locally produced food supplements (Thriposha) used for young children and pregnant and lactating women. WFP supported the government owned Thriposha factory by bringing in a technical expert to assess the factory and the Thriposha programme in April 2016. WFP has since worked on Thriposha improvement plan, which includes assessment of production, supply chain and consumption and demand of Thriposha. The production assessment was completed in April 2016 and was endorsed by MoH in August 2016. The Nutrition Division, MoH conducted a consultative meeting in July 2016 to discuss the recommendations of the report and the way forward. The supply chain assessment is planned to take place in January 2017.</p>	<p>The experience of other countries in contributing to the increased availability of local produced fortified foods is helpful in advocating for rice fortification in Sri Lanka and educating the relevant sectors. To ensure a broader reach of this information, it was debated whether to arrange exchange visits or conduct a symposium locally. Finally it was decided that the priority will be given to organizing the national symposium on fortification as this will allow a broader spectrum of government staff to participate, and if the budget allows, then the international visit to enhance south south collaboration will also be organized.</p>	<p>For the rice fortification pilot study, WFP will build the technical capacity of NFPB to do the blending and also to be the future reference point in the country for blending fortified rice. The report of the technical expert (food technologist) on his visit and evaluation of the Thriposha programme was endorsed by the Government of Sri Lanka and is being prepared for printing. To comprehensively support GoSL to improve Thriposha, WFP will also carry out supply chain and consumption / demand assessment to identify gaps and areas for improvement. WFP plans to organize a symposium on rice fortification in early 2017, involving public and private stakeholders.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.8: Minimum standards/guidelines with health and nutrition component implemented for improved levels of nutrition in pre-school children</p>	<p>Children’s Secretariat of MoWCA had already developed the minimum standards and during the inception workshop held on July 22, 2015, it was identified that the present need is to cover the gap in the existing guidelines by developing a manuals on Health & Nutrition for Pre-schools and preschool nutrition guidelines. A working group was formed on 17th March 2016 comprising the MoH Nutrition Coordination Division and the Children’s Secretariat under the guidance of FAO Nutrition Consultant. The following aspects were agreed to be covered in the manuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is nutrition and why nutrition is important for this age group • What are the special nutritional needs for toddlers • What are the common nutritional problems among preschool children • What are their dietary requirements <p>Development of preschool nutrition guidelines A validation workshop on the pre-school nutrition guidelines was held on June 13-14, 2016 and the content of the manuals was finalized; however, pictures and messages from the Children’s Secretariat are pending inclusion.</p>	<p>While the change in government and administrative heads within the MoWCA during 2015 impacted commencement of activities under the MoWCA, delays continue due to lack of commitment from the Children’s Secretariat.</p> <p>To mitigate the delays and progress on activities, FAO met with the Secretary of MoWCA to discuss steps to move forward on October 16, 2015. Further, the FAO Nutrition Consultant initiated the efforts to bridge the gaps in the guidelines for the Health & Nutrition for Pre-schools manual through meetings with the relevant officials at the MoWCA and the MoH. However, progress on MoWCA is still slow despite the delays being highlighted at the PMC meeting on November 6, 2016 and the NNSSL progress review meeting for the JP on March 8, 2016. In addition, the Presidential Secretariat held a special meeting on March 15, 2016 with the Secretary, MoWCA; Director, Children’s Secretariat, FAO, and other relevant officials on to address the delays and expedite their activities on this project.</p>	<p>FAO nutrition consultant reviewed the existing documentation on minimum standards, identified gaps in the implementation of health and nutrition component, and provided recommendations to fill up the identified gaps, as detailed in the report on the ‘Implementation of Gaps in the Health & Nutrition Component of the Pre-School Minimum Standards Guidelines’ dated December 2015. Validation of the revised manual on pre-school minimum standards was held in June 2016 prior to finalization. The book was handed over for printing and is expected to be distributed in November 2016.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.9: Nutrition promotion to pre-school children and communities (parental programmes) enhanced for improved nutrition levels of children in schools and at household level</p>	<p>Three manuals: Pre-School Teacher Manual; Parents Manual; and Children's Activity Book have been identified as printed material to be made available. A training manual published in 2009 is already available with the Nutrition Coordination Division of the Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Re-printing of the pre-school nutrition promotion 4 leaflets and 4 posters developed by MoH was completed in August 2016 only in the Sinhalese language; Tamil medium translations are not yet done and are expected to be completed second week of November 2016</p> <p>Updated teacher training manual, and development of module for parents (community) and children's activity book; on nutrition promotion are yet to be completed.</p> <p>4 workshops with 129 ToT participants (86 female and 43 male) representing all nine provinces and comprising Early Childhood Development Officers (ECCD); Women's Development Officers; and others, were trained in Colombo by August 2016. Training of teachers from 1,500 selected pre-schools by the ToT groups will be conducted, in collaboration with MoWCA and MoH, starting from August 2016 and is expected to go on until June 2017 in order to cover all 25 districts.</p>	<p>Delays in the selection of the 1,500 pre-schools for targeting were experienced. The Director & staff of the Children's Secretariat explained that the delay in providing the list of pre-schools were due to the fact that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-School is a devolved subject and pre-school administration under the provincial authorities and the Children's Secretariat role is to provide national level guidance only. Therefore, selection of pre-schools needed to be done in consultation with provincial and divisional level officials, which needed time. • Early Childhood Care officers are over-burdened with other activities, e.g. Poshana malla (nutritional packs distribution) <p>Both MoH and MoWCA are responsible for completing the documents, with MoH providing the technical inputs and MoWCA doing the distribution. As mitigation to the delays, FAO conducted many meetings with the MoWCA and the NSSL also conducted meetings with all stakeholders to monitor the progress of activities.</p> <p>During month of December Pre-Schools teacher trainings cannot be scheduled due to year end concerts. Also, since teachers from 1,500 pre-schools need to be trained the available time remaining is insufficient and an additional three months from the end of the project period will be required to complete the necessary trainings.</p>	<p>Update of nutrition module for teachers; and development of supplementary materials for parents and children's activity book are to be completed by the MoH (Nutrition Coordination Division). It is expected that the documents will be completed by December 2016.</p> <p>Re-printing of 8 MoH publications (4 leaflets and 4 posters) on pre-school nutrition promotion have been completed in August, 2016.in the Sinhalese language and the Tamil translation is expected to be completed by end November 2016</p> <p>4 ToT trainings for 129 participants were completed by August 2016 and pre-school teacher and parents trainings will be conducted between August 2016 and June 2017.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.10: Pre-school meals enhanced in nutritional value to improve nutrition levels of pre-school children</p>	<p>The nutrition guidelines for pre-school children was developed and validated in June 2016. It was then field-tested among pre-school teachers in the Western Province as arranged by the MoWCA. The Tamil translation is on-going and is expected to be completed by end of September 2016.</p>	<p>Delays with activities pertaining to the Children’s Secretariat of the MoWCA are related to and sustained from the change in administration in 2015; provincial authorities are more involved in administration for pre-schools than the Ministry; and officials at the Ministry are burdened with other work without much time for focusing efforts on activities under this project. Mitigation efforts include FAO taking the initiative to commence activities and arrange meetings with the Ministry and relevant stakeholders to gain progress on MoWCA activities. Further, the delays were highlighted to the NNSL during PMC and NSC meetings and at progress review meetings and a special meeting were arranged by NNSL with the MoWCA to specifically discuss the delays and urge them to pay special attention to the available timeframe and urge them to utilize the generous donation of the Spanish Cooperacion, as detailed above.</p>	<p>Validation of the developed preschool nutrition guidelines was done in June 2016. Following the validation, a ToT was conducted, and trainers are expected to train pre-school teachers and parents on how to improve enhance nutritional value in food to improve nutritional levels of pre-school children (expected after August 2016).</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.11: School feeding policy developed to implement a comprehensive guideline for school feeding inclusive of healthy practices</p>	<p>Comprehensive guidelines for school feeding/food consumption were reviewed through stakeholder consultations on September 3 and gaps were identified. The gaps were addressed at a meeting on October 29-30 and recommendations to address the identified gaps were incorporated into draft school feeding guidelines. Further, a situation analysis on school feeding in Sri Lanka was commissioned by WFP and the finalized in March 2016. The findings and recommendations of the report can be leveraged to inform the school feeding guidelines and policy. The revised school feeding guidelines/circular has been drafted and is expected to be finalized and circulated by end November 2016. Following on from the above-mentioned workshops, a two-day preparation of a comprehensive booklet on school canteen guidelines, including the updated school canteen circular, was developed on Dec. 17-18, 2015. The school canteen guidelines booklet was printed and distributed in both local languages (Sinhala and Tamil) to all 10,000 schools across the island in January 2016. Following the workshop on September 4, 2015 organized by the Ministry of Education to identify the nutrition messages focusing on different age groups, another workshop was conducted on Nov. 24, 2015 with participants from the Ministry of Health, National Institute of Education, academia, and education officers. The participants were tasked with different topics to develop supplementary material for primary and secondary age students and the draft document has been completed. Currently type-setting and proof reading of the curricular nutrition messages is in process.</p>	<p>While the school feeding guideline was drafted in 2015, there was a delay in the artwork and type-setting for printing the document. To mitigate this and expedite the process, an external type-setter was contracted. The development of the nutrition messages for different age groups was slightly delayed as the working group tasked with drafting the messages was late in providing their inputs by the agreed date due to other commitments. As mitigation, the FAO consultant contributed to conducting the review of the nutrition messages. Even though external type setter has been contracted, editing of the supplementary book for the school feeding programme is not yet completed. It is expected to be finalized by end October 2016.</p>	<p>The revised school feeding/nutrition guidelines are expected to be ready for printing and circulation by end November 2016. School canteen guidelines were developed and distributed to all 10,000 schools across the country in January 2016. The canteen guidelines were circulated in both Tamil and Sinhalese languages. The nutrition consultant reviewed the current curriculum of schools and the suggestions obtained from the workshop held on Sept. 4, 2015 and a validation workshop for the recommendations to National Institute of Education was carried out in June 2016.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.12: Awareness and knowledge base of education officers improved to address under nutrition in schools and to implement comprehensive guideline for food consumption in schools</p>	<p>The database consultant recruited by FAO has developed the School Health Promotion Program Information System in collaboration with MoEd and MoH. A database orientation workshop was conducted in each of the nine provinces around the island, resulting in 408 data entry operators being trained on data entry island-wide between January and March 2016. In addition, an orientation workshop for provincial education coordinators on the water and sanitation module of the database was conducted in March 2016. As the database is web-based, no CDs will be provided. Following the SDGF Secretariat approval of the revised work plan and budget in August 2016, quotations were called for the procurement of computers. Bid analysis and Local Procurement Committee meeting held in October 2016. According to the Procurement officer, if computers are not available need to export and whole process will take at least two months, but should be completed within the year. As of the end of October 2016, basic school information has been entered for all 10,000 schools island-wide and approximately 72% of all data entry of student information has been completed.</p>	<p>Due to delays in obtaining concurrence and endorsement of NNSL and the NSC on the proposed revisions to the budget, the procurement of computers for zonal education offices for data entry of database information has been delayed. The revisions were presented to the NSC on March 17, 2016 and following further revisions requested. However, other activities relevant to this output are progressing. 100% data entry is expected by end of January 2017. Delay in data entry is partly due to the lack of computer; but data entry is ongoing and should be completed within the year.</p>	<p>The database referred to as the School Health Promotion Program Information System can be accessed through the following URL: http://shpp.billusers.com. Access to the system is limited at different levels to relevant officials within the Education Divisions, Zones, and Provinces. Full access to the entire database is only available to specific officials within the Ministry of Education.</p> <p>The formal launch of the database is being planned for end November 2016.</p>
<p>JP Output 1.13: Technical capacity developed to further enhance the inclusion of food and nutrition in the pre-service & in-service teacher education programmes</p>	<p>A working group was formed to develop the manual for training education officers on food and nutrition and the ToT manual was developed. Proof reading of the manual for primary and secondary grades school nutrition education is currently ongoing. As supplementary material, FAO Publication of "Nutrition Education in Primary Schools" - Volume I and II will be translated to Sinhala and Tamil. Sinhala translator has been selected and a Tamil translator is being sourced. Proof reading of the Sinhalese medium translation is ongoing; the Tamil medium translator has been identified, and the final product is expected by end October 2016. Printing of both translations of the supplementary publication is expected in November 2016.</p> <p>Provincial-level training programmes have been planned to be conducted between August and November 2016 and the first disbursement of funds to the Ministry of Education for conducting trainings in 20 educational zones was made in July 2016.</p>	<p>Due to other activities of the provincial education staff, scheduling the food and nutrition trainings for the pre-service and in-service teachers has been challenging. Thus, the next tranche of funds for conducting more trainings will only be transferred to the Ministry of Education after the 20 training programmes that were scheduled to be conducted by November 2016 have been completed. However, MoEd has requested an extension until Feb. 2017 due to other commitments (exams, school holidays, sports events, etc.) and FAO subsequently requested an extension to the JP to accommodate this and the implementation of school gardens.</p>	<p>Proofreading of the ToT manuals for primary and secondary grades in progress and the manuals will be printed once proof-reading is completed. Provincial-level trainings are planned to be conducted between August and November 2016. The first transfer of funds to MoE for conducting the provincial-level training programmes in 20 educational zones was done in July. The second disbursement will be made after the initial trainings are completed - most likely in October 2016.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.14: School garden programme improved to increase nutrition levels of school children</p>	<p>Providing technical support to evaluate and introduce nutritionally rich fruits and vegetables to school gardens and to establish and implement school-garden based learning at a national level has not yet started. These activities are planned to commence in September 2016.</p> <p>The FAO Manual for Teachers, Parents, and Communities on “Setting Up and Running a School Garden” (Garden Tool) was translated into Sinhala language and localized for the Sri Lankan context. The Sinhalese medium manual was printed and distributed among 6,000 schools in 7 provinces. The Tamil translation of the Garden Tool was completed in August 2016; 2,000 copies were printed in September 2016; and distributed to the North and East Provinces in October 2016.</p> <p>Training of Trainers (ToT), comprising education officers, on school garden-based learning commenced in March 2016 and was completed in June 2016 for all nine provinces. A total of 377 ToT education specialists trained on school gardening with School Garden Tool manuals were provided for the ToTs.</p> <p>ToT groups will be conducting school-level trainings for school gardening in July, September, and October 2016.</p> <p>Procurement of seeds is planned for January 2016 and implementation of school gardens is scheduled to commence in February 2017 and end in June 2017.</p>	<p>Discussions between the NSSL and FAO/MoEd on the proposed reduction in the number of school gardens and the allocation of the remaining funds towards the procurement of computers for the school nutrition database (output 1.12) caused some delays. A final decision to support up to 6,000 school gardens was taken at the NSC meeting on March 17, 2016, while FAO cautioned NSSL that with the available time, the likelihood of reaching a target of 6,000 is very small.</p> <p>Translation to Sinhalese medium took more time than expected and was finally completed after five months in the first week of February 2016. The Tamil translation of the Garden Tool was started only after completion of the Sinhala version, and also required about five months to complete; thus, a considerable amount of time was taken for the translations. Tamil translation of the FAO Garden Tool was handed over on August 30, 2016; but the draft for printing has not yet been received –the printing of the Tamil language manuals is expected to be completed by September 2016.</p> <p>The garden training at school-level by the ToT group also has to consider school holidays in August and December 2016 and has to work around the Grade 5 scholarship exams and the ordinary level examinations; thus limiting the time available for conducting the trainings.</p> <p>Further, the climatic conditions, including the two monsoon seasons affect the implementation plan for establishing school gardens. The south-eastern monsoon brings rain to the south-west of Sri Lanka between May and September, while the dry season in this region runs from December to March.</p>	<p>Printing of 6,000 FAO Garden Tool manuals in the Sinhalese language was completed in February 2016. The manuals were distributed to 7 provinces in April 2016. 2,000 copies of the Tamil translation of the manuals were distributed to the Northern and Eastern Provinces in October 2016. Finalization of the Tamil language Garden Tool was completed in August 2016 and will be printed by the end of September 2016, after which it will be distributed to 1,800 schools.</p> <p>All ToT trainings for the school gardens completed in June 2016. Educators from 439 schools have been trained in school gardens in 4 provinces and 15 education zones by in July and September 2016.</p>

Cross-cutting issues

How has the JP addressed during the reporting period (please provide concrete actions):

1) The **sustainability** of the JP work. (200 words)

The baseline nutrition surveys and the review of the in-country capacity for fortified rice (including the landscape analysis and pilot study) will all serve as key documents to scale up and inform long-term national interventions to address malnutrition. Further, enhancing the existing National Nutrition

Surveillance System of MoH will strengthen the existing information system and ensure that nutrition indicators are being tracked and the targets and objectives of the existing or future-implemented programmes are monitored. In addition, the significant efforts towards rice fortification through the landscape analysis, pilot study, and proposed marketing strategy and capacity building, will inform the government on scaling up and incorporating rice fortification into national standards and development agendas. Also, strengthening the government's 40-year old locally fortified supplementary food programme (Thriposha), through this project will better the product quality and availability, which will continue on even after the end of the JP. Thus, the activities conducted through WFP will support the government in developing sustainable, long-term nutrition interventions.

The efforts of FAO primarily focus on Training of Trainers and of teachers and educators for both school children and pre-school children and parents through the development, printing, and circulation of many comprehensive manuals, guidelines, and training documents, and through numerous training sessions that ensure that the investment of the JP in nutrition promotion programmes will guarantee that the activities supported by FAO are incorporated into the government and community pre-school and school systems; thereby increasing nutrition in children, schools, and homes. Further, the guidelines, technical materials, school gardens, and the database are all provided to the student beneficiaries through the MoEd and/or MoWCA with the multi-sectoral consultations of MoH and MoAg and the oversight of the National Nutrition Secretariat, thereby ensuring national ownership and commitment of the government in sustaining these activities.

Activities under this JP were also designed to support the GoSL Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN) administered by the National Nutrition Secretariat of the Sri Lanka (NSSL) in collaboration with 17 ministries. NSSL is currently working on updating the MSAPN within the GoSL's Presidential Secretariat, further ensuring sustainability of the JP activities.

WFP's support to review the National Nutrition policy will ensure that a broader and more integrated approach is reflected in the revised policy, warranting changes in the policy directions of the country and subsequent implementation plan.

2) The promotion of **women's empowerment and gender equality**. (200 words)

The results of the PLW baseline survey, supported by WFP, will serve as a reference point for the nutrition and house-hold level food security status of PLW and will allow the government to implement informed programmes to directly address and enhance the nutritional status of women, and thereby their health and well-being. The schoolchildren survey, for which data collection was completed within this reporting period, will evaluate the nutritional status of both boys and girls and will help inform the government, including the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, among others on appropriate nutrition interventions.

Further, the review of the nutrition policy process will also allow for the integration of the gender sensitive lens to policy. WFP is also exploring opportunity to bring in the expertise of private sector on marketing and social behavior change communication to strengthen the capacity of the Government.

The national symposium on fortification will also include the participation of private sector stakeholders to advocate for private-public partnership in this sphere of intervention.

FAO continues to work directly with the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs to educate and empower pre-school teachers and women's development officers, on nutrition promotion, which will directly advise

women on improved pre-school and home nutrition.

Both the direct training of pre-school and school teachers and other government officers and community members on nutrition promotion and the results of the baseline surveys will inform and educate decision makers on prioritizing national investment on nutrition and food security to address and mitigate malnutrition levels in the country. Further, the activities of the project will influence women's behavior change towards the procurement and consumption of nutritious foods for their children, themselves, and within their households, in general.

During the planning and consultative workshops held by WFP and FAO, suggestions and recommendations from both men and women were encouraged in influencing policy decisions and programme implementation, thereby ensuring gender balanced considerations.

3) The engagement in **public-private partnerships**. (200 words)

For the rice fortification pilot study, the fortified rice kernels (FRK) are being procured and imported through a private corporation and is being cleared through customs by the government and blended, packaged, and distributed for use in the pilot study. This private-public partnership will be replicated in the event of scale up of rice fortification, until the country builds the capacity to produce the FRK locally.

Further, the pilot study on rice fortification includes an acceptability and logistical evaluation of the inclusion of fortified rice in school meals. In the Moneragala District, which is one of the two districts selected for the study, school meals are prepared by private caterers employed by the school. For the incorporation of fortified rice through this school meal modality, the pilot study will evaluate the feasibility of working with the private-sector caterer, which will inform the best practices and challenges for scaling up the provision of fortified rice in school meals.

The private sector, including millers, traders/retailers, and consumers, were consulted through the landscape analysis to evaluate their capacity and interest for initiating/scaling up rice fortification programmes in the country. Further, the private sector will be further engaged during the rice fortification workshop and the developing of the social marketing strategy planned for early next year.

In addition, the private sector is involved in providing services such as meeting room facilities for stakeholder consultations and workshops.

Communication and Advocacy

Has the JP articulated an advocacy & communication actions that helps advance its policy objectives and development outcomes?:

No

Please describe communication activities developed as part of the JP. :

Through its activities, the JP has produced a number of communications materials, including flyers/leaflets, banners, news stories, dramas, manuals, and guidance documents pertaining to nutrition promotion in line with the objectives of the programme.

As detailed above, FAO outputs involve the development of many products for nutrition promotion. In line with their activities, FAO collaborated with MoEd in updating the School Canteen Circular and Guidelines and translating the FAO School Garden Tool into both local languages, Sinhala and Tamil, and re-printed 10

posters and 12 leaflets and facilitated the production of 1,000 CDs on organic gardening for the MoEd stall at the exhibition for the Toxin-Free Nation organized by the Presidential Secretariat among other nutrition promotion materials. Further, FAO supported the Children's Secretariat, MoWCA and NCD, MoH in revising the pre-school nutrition manuals and translated the FAO publication on Primary Education on Nutrition (Volumes 1 and 2) into the local languages.

WFP also provided flyers and banners for the National Youth Model United Nations conference in August 2016 to increase awareness on the SDGs and inform WFP and FAOs role in SDG2 in particular.

FAO supported the development of a video on school nutrition with MoEd, which can be accessed at: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/nz0727n0drnivmt26hdxk?oref=e&sm=1>

FAO Sri Lanka and regional newsletters included articles on the efforts of the SDGF JP (see attached). FAO-supported nutrition trainings for pre-school teachers were also covered in the media and can be accessed at the following links:

- <http://www.ft.lk/article/544023/FAO-partners-Education-Ministry-to-encourage-school-gardens>
- http://www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code_title=146082
- <http://nation.lk/online/2016/05/28/fao-and-education-ministry-to-encourage-school-gardening.html>
- <http://nation.lk/online/2016/10/08/fao-supports-pre-school-teachers-training.html>
- <http://editorial.ft.lk/2016/10/10/fao-supports-pre-school-teachers-training-on-nutrition/>
- <http://epaper.thinakaran.lk/?id=09&tday=2016/10/11> (in Tamil language)

Signing of the agreement with the NFPB, MoAg for building their capacity for rice fortification and their support for the rice fortification pilot study was covered by the media and can be accessed at the links below:

- http://varunamultimedia.me/videos/btv/vmtube/itn-sinhala-news/itn-sinhala-news_-13-10-16/play.html?1
- <http://dailynews.lk/2016/10/22/local/96721>
- <http://www.itnnews.lk/local-news/new-variety-of-rice-introduced-to-overcome-iron-deficiency/>

RCO also supports the JP by posting Twitter updates on JP activities and maintaining a webpage for joint programmes. Tweets that have been posted on the JP can be accessed at:

- <https://twitter.com/UNSriLanka/status/787917935406878720>
- <https://twitter.com/UNSriLanka/status/757828124289536001>

Please provide concrete gains on how the the JP communication and advocacy efforts have increased awareness on SDGs.:

WFP is supporting the Medical Research Institute (MRI) of MoH to conduct national baseline surveys on the food and nutrition security of PLW and on school children, which will inform policy decisions and necessary interventions regarding SDG 2 and, in turn, address SDG 5: Gender Equality within the household and influence SDG 1 to end poverty. The reports of these two baseline surveys are expected to be published in the before the end of 2016 and will serve as concrete advocacy tools for government, public, and private sector interventions to improve the nutritional status of the country.

Further, WFP's support for reviewing the National Nutrition Policy; developing the rice fortification policy directives; revamping the National Nutrition Surveillance Information System; will contribute directly to SDG2 as well as towards SDGs 1, 3, and 5.

The school feeding policy, canteen guidelines and circular, school garden tool, ToT manuals, banners, and flyers, produced by FAO in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs directly contribute to gains towards SDG 2: Zero Hunger, as they are all related to addressing hidden hunger and good nutrition; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being from pre-school and school children, to teachers and parents; SDG 4: Quality Education; and SDG 5: Gender Equality. Further, the

school nutrition database also aims to support the above-mentioned SDGs as well as SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation as it incorporate WASH availability information in schools.

In addition, the JP’s support for events such as the National Youth Model United Nations forum; National Scout Jamboree and the Toxin-Free Nation Exhibition, where flyers were distributed and posters and banners on SDGs were displayed; interactive media information was provided; and dramas were conducted, help promote awareness on SDG 2, especially, among school children, youth, and civil society.

JP website URL:

<http://lk.one.un.org/our-work/joint-programmes>

JP website URL:

<http://lk.one.un.org/our-work/joint-programmes>

JP twitter handle:

@UNSriLanka

Other social media channels managed by joint programme (Instagram, Google+, You Tube...):

One UN Coordination and Delivering as One

The SDG-F is based on the principles of effective development cooperation, inclusion and participation and One UN coordination.

Actions	Description
Managerial practices (financial, procurement, etc.) implemented jointly by the UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	WFP and FAO have regular JP meetings to review progress, collaborate, and coordinate among the two agencies. When bottlenecks are identified, the issues are elevated to the UN agency heads and then to the UN RC for intervention and resolution; including the issue in obtaining the commitment of GoSL to the matching funds and the approval of the proposed work plan and budget revisions, both of which were resolved; and the decision to request for a no-cost extension. Further, both agencies participate in progress review meetings headed by NNSSL and UN RC, where decisions on programme implementation are deliberated and decided.
Joint analytical work (studies, publications, etc.) undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	The WFP-supported monthly meeting of the MoH commissioned Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for food fortification also includes the technical expertise of FAO, UNICEF, and WHO, when required, in shaping and deciding upon factors related to rice fortification, such as fortificant types, specifications, study design, etc. Technical guidance and expertise from UNICEF was also provided in addition to the financial support towards the baseline nutrition surveys conducted by MRI.

Actions	Description
<p>Joint activities undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs</p>	<p>Towards the development of an overarching school feeding policy, WFP conducted a school feeding situation analysis to document the existing modalities for school feeding and obtain recommendations for improving the programmes. A key observation and recommendation of the situation analysis, endorsed by MoEd and Ministry of Planning was the lack of and thus need for a comprehensive school feeding policy. FAO is working with MoEd on drafting and updating school feeding guidelines and circulars.</p> <p>Furthering the project's key objective of achieving attitudinal and behavioural changes through enhanced nutrition education and nutrition promotion, WFP and FAO both supported the 9th National Scout Jamboree, for 10,000 scouts on Feb. 20-26, 2016.</p> <p>As WFP provides school meals to almost all 970 schools in the Northern Province and conducts regular monitoring and evaluation of the schools, 1 WFP officer was nominated to attend the ToT training on school gardens on April 26-27, 2016. Further, WFP CO has offered its support to FAO for the implementation of school gardens in the North through its area office.</p>
<p>Other, please specify:</p>	<p>While not an implementation agency of the JP, UNICEF provided financial support towards the baseline nutrition surveys conducted by MRI for PLW and school children and participate together with WFP at the MRI progress review meetings, again indicating One UN collaboration and coordination with the government.</p> <p>UN-Habitat is assisting the construction activities of 15 school buildings and 10 teachers' quarters in 25 schools in the Mannar District in the Northern Province. 16 of the 25 schools have also been selected as beneficiaries for the implementation of school gardens through this SDGF project. Thus, of the 9 remaining schools, 3 participants representing the 9 remaining schools were given the opportunity to attend the ToT on school gardens held in Northern Province on April 26th & 27th 2016.</p>

What types of coordination mechanisms and decisions have been taken to ensure joint delivery? :

The Joint Programme Coordinator liaises regularly with JP colleagues of both agencies through meetings, emails, and phone conversations to update and review project progress; address challenges and mitigation options; and jointly discuss implementation strategies and collaborations. The Joint Programme Coordinator also liaises with the RC office for coordinating social media updates and for informing the RC on project progress and issues; interacts regularly with the government oversight body, the National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NSSL), to schedule PMC and NSC meetings and address concerns; coordinates with the SDGF Secretariat; and informs the representatives of the Spanish Government of project progress on behalf of both implementing UN agencies.

In addition, any documentation, such as the proposed work plan and budget revisions and amendments; and financial and narrative monitoring reports are prepared separately by the Nutrition Officers at WFP and the Project Manager at FAO and are consolidated by the JP Coordinator for Delivery as One. Further, the JP coordinator obtains the input of both agencies in preparing documentation such as the request for no-cost extension and in finalizing meeting notes for record prior to dissemination.

As detailed above, FAO is invited to collaborate on the WFP-supported MoH-appointed rice fortification TAG's monthly meetings with other relevant ministries and government agencies, ensuring that the technical expertise of both agencies are represented in the decisions and thereby further indicating to GoSL the collaboration and cooperation between the two agencies of the SDGF JP. Also, UNICEF was represented in the monthly TAG meetings, highlighting the alliance of the UN agencies even more. And

WFP has extended support to FAO through its Area Office in the North on the implementation of school gardens.

Further, both agencies attend together the progress review meetings conducted by NNSL with all implementing ministries and stakeholders, as well as the JP PMC and NSC meetings.

National Ownership: Paris, Accra and Busan Commitments

The SDG-F strengthens the UN system’s ability to deliver results in an integrated and multi-dimensional manner by supporting the Joint Programme modality and by bringing together United Nations Agencies and national counterparts in a collective effort to ensure ownership and sustainability of results of JPs and advance towards the SDGs.

Partners	Involvement *	Type of involvement	Examples
Government (specify national/local)	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Budget Service Provision Please specify: National Government	All activities of the JP are conducted in close collaboration with the government. The National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NNSL) serves as the government oversight and coordination body for the JP and conducts regular progress review meetings with the two UN agencies and the four implementing ministries in addition to co-chairing and hosting the JP PMC and NSC meetings. WFP and FAO also work directly with MoH, MoAg, MoEd, and MoWCA in implementing project activities. A few specific examples of government involvement, include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH convenes the WFP-supported monthly meetings of the multi-sector Technical Advisory Group for food fortification • MoAg has offered its support to the pilot study on rice fortification, led by MoH through the engagement of its facilities and resources for blending, producing, and delivering fortified rice • MoEd is working closely with FAO on the development of technical materials for schools; the development of the school nutrition database; and implementation of school gardens • MoWCA is providing support in the promotion of nutrition for pre-schools and parents and planning the ToTs together with MoH
Private Sector	Slightly involved	Procurement Service Provision Please specify: Private Sector	Fortified rice kernels (FRK) are being procured from the private sector for the production of fortified rice for the pilot study. Further, the pilot study includes an acceptability and logistical evaluation of the inclusion of fortified rice in school meals, which will engage private caterers that prepare school meals in the Moneragala District. The private sector, including millers, traders/retailers, and consumers were also consulted through the landscape analysis to evaluate their considerations for initiating/scaling up rice fortification programmes in the country. Further, the private sector is involved in providing services such as meeting room facilities for stakeholder consultations and workshops.

Partners	Involvement *	Type of involvement	Examples
Civil Society	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Other Please specify: Civil Society	PLW and schoolchildren from civil society are participants in the baseline nutrition surveys conducted by MRI. The SUN PF conducted a civil sector review of the National Nutrition Policy and the information gathered from this will be considered in the WFP-supported MoH review of the Policy. Households and schoolchildren will also participate in the rice fortification pilot study, especially by providing feedback on acceptability. The JP supported the National Scout Jamboree in Feb. 2016 and WFP was involved in the National Youth Model United Nations conference in Aug. 2016. Also, many members of civil society attended the exhibition where FAO disseminated nutrition information through posters, flyers, and CDs in collaboration with the MoEd.
Academia	Fairly involved	Policy-decision making Service Provision Please specify: Academia	Experts from universities attend the WFP-supported monthly TAG meetings on food fortification. Academics also participated in FAO-supported consultative meetings on developing nutrition guidelines, circulars, ToT manuals, and curricular material for JP activities with MoEd. Following procurement procedures, the University of Peradeniya was contracted to conduct the rice fortification pilot study.

* Implementation of activities and the delivery of outputs

Please briefly describe the current situation of the government, private sector and civil society on regards of ownership, align:

Since the commencement of the JP coincided with the change in government and national administration in January 2015, the high-level oversight and coordination body for this JP- the National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NSSL) within the Presidential Secretariat - was initially non-functional. Following, the installation of new national-level administrators and clarification of the roles, which took many months, NSSL became re-engaged in the SDGF JP and provides an instrumental role in the oversight and collaboration of the multi-sectoral ministries and the two UN agencies in following up on the progress and addressing challenges and issues arising in the implementation of the programme. In addition to the PMC and NSC meetings, NSSL scheduled and conducted progress review meetings with all four ministries together and separately, when necessary, to monitor project progress - both physical and financial. In addition, WFP provides updates on the SDGF JP to its Project Management Unit at the Ministry of National Policies and Planning as well.

Each of the four ministries (MoH, MoAg, MoE, and MoWCA) work in close collaboration with WFP and FAO and with each other as necessary in implementing the activities of the project. For example, MoH follows up on JP activities with WFP participation through updates at their monthly TAG meetings as well as the MoH Nutrition Coordination Divisions meetings and the MCHN meetings where WFP-supported efforts for the baseline surveys, rice fortification landscape and pilot studies, review of the National Nutrition Policy and nutrition information system; and support to the Thripasha programme are discussed. Similarly, efforts of the JP are followed up in the other implementing ministries as well.

Sub-contracted third parties of the private sector have been involved in the type-setting and printing of FAO publications, including school canteen guidelines and the FAO school garden tool, among other documentation. FAO contracted nutrition consultant and database consultant have also provided consistent and committed efforts towards progressing on critical components of the JP. Further, WFP-contracted research institution has worked in close collaboration with the WFP Regional Bureau consultant on the landscape analysis. The supplier for the fortified rice kernels (FRK) produced the kernels per requirements of MoH and a multi-sectoral approach with the collaboration of the MoNPEA, MoAg, MoH, MoEd, and NNSSL is employed together with academia to see the pilot study through.

Thus, all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the JP activities have been committed to ensuring quality deliverables and sustainable solutions towards achieving the objectives of the JP.

Please briefly provide an overall assessment of the governance and managerial structures :

The NNSSL convenes the NSC and PMC meetings with the UN RC (or delegate) as co-chair. To date, the JP held PMCs meeting on November 6, 2015, July 5, 2016, and October 24, 2016. One NSC meeting has been held so far on March 17, 2016. At the NSC meeting in March 2016, participation of the government oversight body, NNSSL; UN RC; and representative of the Spanish government were all present and directly involved in reviewing the progress and especially the proposed work plan and budget revisions. Concerns regarding certain proposed amendments were voiced and covering resolutions were made at the NSC itself, owing to the committed participation of the decision makers for the JP. This collaboration showcases the ability of GoSL, UN agencies, and donor to work together through high-level horizontal coordination towards addressing the important issues of malnutrition in the country.

In February 2016, the Chargée d’Affaires of the Embassy of Spain in New Delhi requested a special meeting in Sri Lanka to discuss the progress and concerns of the SDGF JP. This meeting was arranged on short notice with the participation of the heads of UN agencies and the implementing officers and highlights the commitment of the donor government in ensuring the success of the JP. The Embassy in Spain and the Honorary Consul for Spain in Sri Lanka are kept abreast of JP activities.

The JP also continues to make progress on project activities by working with dedicated staff within the government implementing agencies through horizontal coordination between project officers and government officers to continuously move forward in areas including the baseline surveys, rice fortification initiatives, development of nutrition promotion documentation, development of school nutrition information database, among others..

Vertical coordination between the UN RC, heads of the two UN implementing agencies and JP staff in decision-making, monitoring progress, and advising on addressing bottlenecks has been instrumental in the achievements of the JP thus far. Horizontal coordination between the two UN agency heads in progress reviews and in collaboration on the proposed revised work plan and budget has strengthened the JP ‘Delivering as One’. Regular meetings of the JP team has ensured teamwork and partnership in implementing project activities.

Further, vertical coordination between NNSSL at the Presidential Secretariat and the implementing ministries through progress review meetings also establishes the management structure and responsibilities for successful JP implementation.

VI. Joint Programme contribution to the SDGs

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 1	By leveraging the results of the baseline surveys and encouraging school gardening; among other activities, the JP can influence targeted nutrition interventions which will help improve the health and well-being of society, especially women and girls, thereby ensuring better nutrition, education, and work opportunities, which in turn, helps to end poverty.
Goal 2	The JP was designed around SDG2 and primarily focuses its efforts on nutrition and food security. The baseline surveys on PLW and school children; the policy development and pilot study on fortified rice; and nutrition promotion for pre-school and school children, teachers, and civil society; and the revamping of the national nutrition surveillance system in addition to all other activities of the JP all contribute towards SDG2 - Zero Hunger.
Goal 3	FAO activities, including Training of Trainers to disseminate nutrition information to educators, parents, students, and civil society will encourage good health and well-being at all ages, in line with SDG 3. Further, WFP's support for reviewing the National Nutrition Policy and the rice fortification initiatives, contribute towards SDG 3.
Goal 4	The school feeding policy, canteen guidelines and circular, school garden tool, ToT manuals, updated nutrition curriculum, banners, and flyers, and other technical material produced by FAO in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs, and Ministry of Health, directly contribute to gains towards SDG 2: Zero Hunger, and directly promote nutrition education for pre-school and school children, teachers and parents; in line with SDG 4.
Goal 5	Through the national baseline surveys on the food and nutrition security of PLW and on school children and the school nutrition database and national nutrition surveillance system, all of which collect gender-disaggregated data; the information will inform target nutrition interventions, especially relevant to SDG 2 and, in turn, address SDG 5: Gender Equality within the household and influence SDG 1 to end poverty.
Goal 6	The school nutrition database comprises a module which captures the water and sanitation availability at all 10,000 schools. This information can inform the MoEd to ensure access to Clean Water and Sanitation in schools, in line with Goal 6.
Goal 17	The fortification efforts conducted by WFP through the JP include plans for contributing other country experience and technology transfer for capacity building for the production of fortified rice in Sri Lanka. WFP is considering means to strengthen South-South cooperation through collaboration with other countries in the region for the procurement of fortified rice kernels for the pilot study and the sharing of best practices and technical information. WFP is planning to assist the government in improving the locally-fortified supplementary food, Thripasha, through North-South collaboration. A food technologist from WFP HQ completed a mission to development a Thripasha improvement plan which was endorsed by the government. Further, WFP is collaborating with the Center for Excellence for Hunger in Brazil to plan and facilitate an exchange visit with government officials to better the school feeding programme in Sri Lanka by influencing the school feeding policy; home-grown school feeding; and inclusion of fortified food in school meals.

VII. Additional Information

Additional Comments:

The changes in the government and its priorities and turn-over of counterpart staff, which coincided with the start of the project caused delays of approximately six months for the timely commencement of

project activities. These delays and the constraints of the school year and the planting season compel the need for more time for the physical establishment of school gardens. Further, the initial delays in the collaboration of the MoWCA mean that the pre-school training programmes will need to be conducted through June 2017 to meet the targets. Thus, the approval of the request to the SDGF Secretariat for a five-month no-cost extension (NCE) until end September 2017 (as requested in a formal letter in October 2016) is necessary to ensure completion of project activities and reaching of targets. Together with the NCE, minor amendments to the approved revised budget were also submitted. Further, other bottlenecks, including the non-compliance of the rice fortification landscape analysis with expected standards and extra steps in the review of the national nutrition policy, among others, have effected delays in the implementation schedule of the JP.

In addition, while most project activities are nearing completion or progressing well, and amendments to the budget were informed, further budgetary revisions may be required to better complete project activities. For instance, the allocation for procuring rice fortification equipment is much higher than the actual quoted price of the supplier. Thus, the remaining funds may be re-allocated towards a more comprehensive social marketing strategy development for rice fortification or for strengthening advocacy and national initiatives for nutrition. These potential revisions have only just been indicated (following bidding for equipment suppliers) and may be posed to the next NSC meeting for approval.

Attachments

Performance Monitoring Framework *:

 [20161129 SDGF JP Sri Lanka_Performance Monitoring Framework 3_FINAL.docx](#)

NSC and/or PMC Minutes *:

 [20160803 SDG-F JP Sri Lanka_Note for Record_PMC Mtg on 20160705_FINAL.pdf](#)

Other publications:

 [20161031 FAO APac Gender News_Sept 2016.pdf](#)

Press releases:

 [20160526 FAO-MoEd Encourage School Gardens_Daily FT.pdf](#)

 [20160528 FAO-MoEd Encourage School Gardens_The Nation.pdf](#)

 [20160529 FAO School Gardens Mooted for Scaling Up Nutrition_The Island.pdf](#)

 [20161008 FAO Pre-school Teacher Training_The Nation.pdf](#)

 [20161010 FAO Pre-school Teacher Training_Daily FT.pdf](#)

 [20160725 SDGF-WFP-UN tweet on Nutrition Policy Dialogue_Sri Lanka.pdf](#)

 [20161013 WFP-NFPB Rice Fortification Agreement_ITN News.pdf](#)

 [20161022 WFP-NFPB Rice Fortification Agreement_Daily News.pdf](#)

Additional documentation:

 [20161130 SDGF JP Sri Lanka_Narrative Monitoring Report 3_FINAL.pdf](#)

 [20161130 SDGF JP Fin Mon Rep 3 on AMENDED WP and Budget.xls](#)

 [20161129 UN RC Cover Letter_Monitoring Report 3.pdf](#)

File sharing service :

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jtrqs0ohtlvev9y/AAC27fi1uGhH5GUPvuakVMgxa?dl=0;>

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/nz0727n0drnivmt26hdxk?oref=e&sm=1>