

Programme Title:	Joint Programme on Integrated Nutrition and Food Security Strategies for Children and Vulnerable Groups in Viet Nam
Country:	Viet Nam

I. Joint Programme Information

Joint Programme Information

Programme title:

Joint Programme on Integrated Nutrition and Food Security Strategies for Children and Vulnerable Groups in Viet Nam

Sectorial area of intervention and policy objectives

Food security and nutrition

Integrated approaches for alleviating child hunger and undernutrition.

Promote sustainable and resilient livelihoods for vulnerable households, esp. in the context of adaptation to climate change

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

UN Lead Agency:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

UN Participating Organizations:

UN Women (UN Women)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

World Health Organization (WHO)

Local Partners:

- Maternal and Child Health Department, Ministry of Health
- Crop Production Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan Provincial Peoples Committees
- Provincial Departments of Planning and Investment
- Provincial Health Departments and Reproductive Health Centres
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Provincial Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation
- Mass Organisations, including the Farmers' Union, Women's Union and Trade Union
- National and local media agencies
- Private Sector, including UNILEVER, local seeds supplier companies, private hospitals and clinics, local pharmaceutical companies, representatives from UNICEF's Corporate Advisory Board and UNICEF Next Generation of Young Leaders.
- Global Initiatives and Non-Governmental Organisations

Report submitted by

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Reporting Period Ending:

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Contact 5

III. Financial information

SDG-F Funds

UN Agency	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	650,000.00	650,000.00	545,153.00	545,153.00
World Health Organization (WHO)	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	664,400.00	664,400.00	533,578.00	533,578.00
UN Women (UN Women)	85,600.00	85,600.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
Total	1,500,000.00	1,500,000.00	1,208,731.00	1,208,730.00

Matching Funds

Total				
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IV. Beneficiaries

Total number of direct beneficiaries to date:

16856

Direct Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers	5,466	2,969	2,497	
Entrepreneurs				
Civil servants/government	790	305	485	
Indigenous				
Children	3,340	1,653	1,687	Children under 5 years of age in 7 program communes of Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces
Youth				
Women 15-49	6,846	6,846		Women 15-49 in 7 program communes of Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces
Village Health Workers	414	210	204	
Total	16,856	11,983	4,873	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations	19.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation Research Institute (National Assembly) • Department of Crop production (DCP) Department for Livestock Production (DLP) Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD) Northern Mountainous Agriculture and Forestry Science Institute (NOMAFSI) Agricultural Science Institute for Southern Coastal of Viet Nam (ASISOV) Viet Nam Academy of Agricultural Sciences Department of Maternal and Child Health Medical Service Administration Legislation Department Food Safety Administration National Institute of Nutrition Center for communication – health education Provincial Peoples Committees Provincial Departments of Planning and Investment Provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Provincial Agriculture extension services Provincial Centre for Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Provincial Departments of Health and Reproductive Health Centres

Private sector	3.00	Dong Thap and An Giang Provincial pharmaceutical companies Provincial private health facilities
Community-based organizations	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women union; • Farmer Association • Community Agricultural extension network in the two project provinces • Community kindergarten for pre-schools children in four selective districts
NGOs		
Total	26	

Indirect Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers				
Entrepreneurs				
Civil servants/government				
Indigenous				
Children	122,985	58,812.00	64,173.00	Children under 5 in Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces
Youth				
Women 15-49	316,234	316,234.00		Women 15-49 in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces
Total	439,219	375,046.00	64,173.00	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations		
Private sector		
Community-based organizations		
NGOs	5	Development partners working on nutrition and food security (nutrition working group in Viet Nam)
Total	5	

V. Joint Programme Progress

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
JP Output 1.1:	4710 farmers and local government officials in 7 program communes, 4 districts of Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces gained their knowledge and skills on seven household models on crop, livestock and aquaculture production and implemented at their villages. Field dissemination workshop on household models organized for wider application. IMAM intervention model in one district of Ninh Thuan (Bac Ai) under Joint Programme was replicated quickly to all other districts of this province, and other 5 none project provinces in central highland (Kon Tum and Gia Lai provinces) and the Mekong River Delta (Ca mau, Hau Giang and Tra Vinh provinces) since June 2016.	Serious drought in Ninh Thuan recently is resulted in delay in implementation. Plenty of local staff effort had to pay for emergency response in health nutrition and food security/agricultural. Programme activity implementation has been competed in priority. Leverage of local Government budget allocation for scaling up of the model need further advocate. For instance the IMAM; the social marketing of nutrition product	Local health team are encouraged in combination of the work, especially in field monitoring and supervision UN Viet Nam together with other development partner in Disaster Management Working Group have implemented emergency immediate response and early recovery on nutrition, health and food security in 8 affected provinces including Ninh Thuan. Nutrition, health and food security models under joint program have been successfully used and applied in emergency response and recovery

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.2:</p>	<p>Midterm review of national nutrition strategy period 2011-2020 have been done with a national plan of action 2016-2020 developed.</p> <p>Costing study for next 5 year nutrition plan of action is ongoing to provide evidence for a new round of government investment for nutrition period 2017-2020</p> <p>Technical guidelines on early detection and early treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition were approved by MOH that opens for new advocacy phase to make IMAM service to be covered by health insurance. Gender assessment is on-going, a desk review on gender in nutrition and food security policies and programmes in Viet Nam is being finalized. The findings from the study will be shared with policy makers and practitioners at the end of 2016. Following the desk review, a thematic study will be conducted based on the recommendation in the desk review for further mainstreaming gender into related policies and programme supported by the JP. Restructuring Proposal on Agriculture Sector in Ninh Thuan province have been finalized through a thorough consultation and analysis process and in a quality manner.</p> <p>The mechanisms for improving implementation of the Decree No 100 and 10 steps of breastfeeding at health facilities including Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) was discussed and agreed through Consultation workshop attended by health professionals and managers</p> <p>WHO's tools for health facility strengthening focusing on EENC and annual review of EENC implementation were adapted to Viet Nam's setting and will be used nation-wide after approval for improving quality of EENC in the whole country</p>	<p>It is still a challenge for government agencies to implement the new mandatory food fortification, especially setting up a new co-ordination mechanism for ensuring the production and quality of iodized salt for the population to consume in line with new responsibility and implementation of government agencies regulated by the new legal document, under this the management of production and distribution and monitoring of iodized salt basically move to the Agricultural sector and with more and more role of private sector (salt producers)</p> <p>Challenge is also in estimation of the cost for none-health sensitive intervention to improve nutrition like intervention from other related sectors (agricultural, education, social policy)</p> <p>Next challenge will be advocate government to include the cost for IMAM treatment package in to the health insurance</p> <p>Re-enforcing the implementation of the Decree No 100 and 10 steps of breastfeeding including Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) at the health facilities is a challenge and that needs legal administrative measures and regular supportive supervision.</p> <p>Regular activities for quality improvement of EENC need strong commitment of the local health mangers and staffs. The regular external monitoring/assessment and supportive supervision of EENC will need extra funds to conduct</p>	<p>UNICEF with support from CDC Atlanta and Iodine Nutrition Global network to work further with MOH, and the MARD to build the solution on a better implementation of new national decree on mandatory food fortification.</p> <p>UNICEF is asking for support from international network, especially technical inputs /screening from the SUN network including FAO to support the coming nutrition costing study in Viet Nam</p> <p>The mechanisms for improving implementation of the Decree No 100 and 10 steps of breastfeeding at health facilities including Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) needs to be translated into national policies and regulations</p> <p>MOH should plan monitoring and supervision activities for EENC integrated with other component of Maternal and Child Health programme and should allocate budget for these activities.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
JP Output 2.1:	<p>Community based IYCF model promoting for reduction of child stunting with diversity of integrated activities have been implemented in 7 program communes in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces in a strong integration manner between health and agriculture sectors. Commune project committee play an active role for model implementation</p> <p>Seven household models on crop, livestock and aquaculture production have been implemented well in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces. Community based Integrated nutrition food security model has been analyzed and documented for experience sharing and scaling up. Especially in Lao Cai, where the model was committed by the Provincial People Committee to be scaled up</p> <p>Assessment of Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) implementation in four selected provinces including Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai is being conducted. TOT on capacity building on using guidelines for improving quality of EENC and assessment of EENC implementation is being conducted with 45 health staff attended.</p>	<p>Time-consuming for consolidate, analyses and documentation of the good experiences, and model. This work could not be completed by end 2016</p> <p>Challenge in getting done an approved Local budgeting plan for scaling up of the model</p>	<p>UNICEF works closely with the NIN/DOH in keeping technical support and time line for the two end line assessment in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai, as well as keep commitment to support the province in documentation of the good experiences from the developed models. Provincial health departments and selected hospitals of mentioned provinces should use results of the Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) implementation assessment for improving quality of EENC.</p>
JP Output 2.2:	<p>IEC activities and parent education have been done in a strong integration between health and agriculture sectors. IEC materials on nutrition and food security material have been developed and distributed to communities for model implementation</p> <p>Capacity building and communication have been done through training and field dissemination and demonstration workshop of seven household models on crops, livestock and aquaculture production in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces. Community people gained their knowledge and skill on the model including nutrition and food security.</p>	N/A	N/A

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
JP Output 3.1:	<p>Annual Nutrition profiles for national, sub region and 63 individual provinces were developed and timely published in the NIN's Website.</p> <p>Following up recommendation from phase 1 (2014), one testing round of using USSD (replaced for SMS) in data collection and transfer was completely carried out in 01 commune (Ninh Thuan province) in March 2016, that created more sights for discussion /decision of the NIN/MOH on a new system designed focusing on the standard of light and doable, effective in use, and sustainable. For which, annual sentinel base nutrition data collection frame work is a clear goal to go.</p> <p>WASH communication and CLTS model (Community Let Total Sanitation approach) were implemented in the project communities as part of comprehensive intervention package (in Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces) to synergy impacts on reduction of child stunting.</p>	<p>There is a high demand for the national nutrition program me to relevantly adapt the current and high cost nutrition surveillance system, making them more simple but effective and having chance of sustain in the new programme context when budget for surveillance component under nutrition programme of government is not secured as before.</p>	<p>UNICEF is working with the NIN/MOH on a sentinel base data collection and reporting system to replace for the current one in 2017. Under this new design, innovation technology will be used.</p>
JP Output 3.2:	<p>PMU functioned at both national and subnational levels</p> <p>Midterm Programme Review organized in August 2016, joint monitoring have been done in Lao Cai in August and Ninh Thuan in October 2016. Great program achievement with concrete evident were acknowledged and documented through both program review and field activity implementation.</p>	<p>Due to the delay of DPO approval (September 2015) and serious drought in Ninh Thuan province, despite great effort given from both UN and Government, some program activities still need to be completed in quarter 1and 2 of 2017 especially program outcome assessment and evaluation while DPO approval is for 2015-2016 only. Program no-cost extension until July 2017 need to be submitted to government office follow the regulation of SDGF which allow 28 months of implementation from first tranche of fund transferred in March 2015.</p>	<p>FAO is working closely with national PMU to develop proposal and all required supporting document for program no-cost extension</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)

Policy strengthened on nutrition and food security through approval and implementation of decree 100 on

breastfeeding and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) and restructuring agriculture with strong ownership of Government which result to nation-wide application and benefit all children. The mechanisms for improving implementation of the Decree No 100 and 10 steps of breastfeeding at health facilities including EENC when translated into national policies and regulations to re-enforce the above decree and regulations would have impact on breastfeeding and quality of neonatal care in the long run. Tools were adapted for health facility strengthening focusing on early essential newborn care (EENC) and annual review of EENC implementation will be used nation-wide for improving quality of routine EENC in the whole country.

The IMAM model development under the joint programme together with national guideline on diagnosis and early treatment of child severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in fact created a major base for the IMAM intervention that applied for none emergency and especially under emergency context. For instant, with the IMAM model developed in certain pilot communes in Ninh Thuan, it has been immediately applied and expanding to 334 communes of 28 most affected districts of 6 provinces by drought crisis 2016 to benefit for about 7000 SAM children in affected provinces.

Until the cost of IMAM intervention package was approved by government to be covered by health insurance, that services will be automatically sustained by Government funds bringing benefit to about 200,000 SAM children each year in Viet Nam

Strong government ownership through high commitment in organizing Midterm Programme Review and joint monitoring and supervision in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces, technical assistant and instruction provided to ensure for quality implementation.

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

Poor and ethnic minority women and girls are direct beneficiaries of the project. At the policy level, the project support the development of decree 100 on breastfeeding and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) which directly benefit to women and girls. At community level, women actively participated and facilitated for IEC activities and parent education on nutrition and breast feeding.

Women also played an important role in implementing seven models on crops, livestock and aquaculture production as well as field dissemination workshop for wider application. In addition, women gained their knowledge and skill on nutrition and food security through capacity building activities.

A desk review on gender issues in nutrition and food security programme and policies is being finalized. The desk review is to provide a preliminary understanding of gender issues in nutrition and food security policies and practices in Viet Nam and provide recommendations for policy actions.

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

As a follow plan from what was created by UN Joint Programme, there have been several technical discussion and high level meeting conducted by MOH and MARD on implementation of the Mandatory food fortification national decree. In addition, MARD will conduct a meeting tentatively in November 2016 to strengthen salt producer network (private sector) with support of UNICEF and FAO. It is expected a new inter ministries co-ordination mechanism for iodine nutrition programme will be formulated. Other expectation is a major change in mechanism for KIO3 supply, in which salt producer community will take role of supply of KIO3 for salt iodization activity while the MOH will officially terminate their 30 year subsidies of this material.

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. :

Midterm Programme Review have been done with large participation from stakeholders including development partners government at all levels, programme achievement and good lesson learned documented and shared

UN joint efforts on SUN movement including UN network for SUN and SDG to strengthen coordination and integration on nutrition and food security.

FAO is working closely with APEC secretariat at Ministry of Foreign Affairs to prepare for APEC 2017. FAO Viet Nam and FAO regional office is developing country case study and regional background papers on food security and sustainable agriculture and related issues on nutrition and climate change which to be advocated in APEC 2017

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

N/A

JP twitter handle:

@

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	With support from JP coordinator and UN agencies, national PMU have been regularly provided technical assistant and financial guidance to provincial PUMs in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces for implementation
Joint analytical work (studies, publications, etc.) undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	A desk review on gender issues in nutrition and food security programme and policies is being finalized with inputs and comments from other UN agencies especially FAO Viet Nam and regional office
Joint activities undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	Midterm Programme Review and joint monitoring trip in Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces done jointly by all participating UN agencies IEC and communication activities have been done jointly by UN agencies through parent education, commune child feeding clubs and household food security model WHO and UNICEF jointly support MOH to scale-up Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) and to discuss mechanisms for re-enforcing the implementation of the Decree 100 on breastfeeding
Other, please specify:	N/A

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

UN participating agencies jointly work and facilitate to strengthen coordination in health sector and

between health and agriculture sectors, especially policy strengthening on food fortification, breastfeeding and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) at national level and joint program implementation of capacity building, behaviors change communication activities at grassroots level

Midterm Programme Review and joint programme monitoring done jointly by all participating UN agencies and government partner at all levels

UN joint efforts on SUN movement , Zero Hunger Challenge and following up Second International Conference on Nutrition are important to contribute to program achievement

Programme success, failure and lesson learned have been done jointly by all participating UN agencies WHO and UNICEF under umbrella of Joint Health Programme Group work together in areas of newborn care; jointly support MOH to improve newborn care, specifically essential newborn care and Kangaroo-Mother care and breastfeeding.

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	<p>The government has actively participated and contributed to strengthen policy and advocacy on nutrition and shown their commitment for national wide application especially on decree 100 on breastfeeding and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC).</p> <p>Strong government ownership through high commitment in organizing Midterm Programme Review and joint monitoring and supervision in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces, technical assistant and instruction provided to ensure for quality implementation.</p> <p>National PMU have been regularly provided technical assistant and financial guidance to provincial PUMs in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces for implementation</p>
Private Sector	Fairly involved	Service Provision	<p>With support of UNICEF and FAO, there have been several technical discussion and high level meeting conducted by MOH and MARD on implementation of the Mandatory food fortification national decree. In addition, MARD will conduct a meeting tentatively in November 2016 to strengthen salt producer network (private sector)</p>
Civil Society	Fairly involved	Other	<p>Farmers’ Union have actively participated in the field dissemination workshop/Farmer Field School on household models on crops, livestock and aquaculture production to strengthen nutrition and food security in the communities</p>

Partners	Involvement *	Type of involvement	Examples
Academia	Fairly involved	Policy-decision making Service Provision	The National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) has been actively involved in update and disseminate nutrition profile and coordination of SUN movement Agricultural academia, including the Institute for Planning and Strategies of Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), Agricultural Science Institute for South Central Viet Nam (ASISOV), Northern Mountainous Agro-Forestry Institute (NOMAFSI) have actively participated in development of provincial restructuring agriculture and implementation for food security component in Lao Cai and Ninh Thuan provinces

* 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:

Strong government commitment and ownership through participated and contributed to strengthen policy and advocacy on nutrition for national wide application especially on decree 100 on breastfeeding and Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) and in their management and supervision especially organized Midterm Programme Review and joint monitoring and supervision in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces, provided technical assistant and instruction to ensure for quality implementation.

Academy has been actively involved in and contributed to JP implementation. In health sector, the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) has played an important role on update and disseminate national and provincial nutrition profile and SUN movement while in agriculture sector the Institute for Planning and Strategies of Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), Agricultural Science Institute for South Central Viet Nam (ASISOV), Northern Mountainous Agro-Forestry Institute (NOMAFSI) actively participate in development of provincial restructuring agriculture and implementation of food security component in Ninh Thuan and Lao Cai provinces

Farmers' Union have actively participated in the field dissemination workshop/Farmer Field School on household models on crops, livestock and aquaculture production to strengthen nutrition and food security in the communities. And Women Union continue to participate and facilitate for community based model on nutrition and food security including parent education.

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

As mentioned above, national PMU's role on overall program supervision especially monitoring and technical assistance strengthened.

VI. Joint Programme contribution to the SDGs

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 2	Reducing of micro-nutrient deficiencies among women and children, reduction of and stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of girls pregnant and lactating women, particularly in the most vulnerable ethnic minorities communities along South Central Coast and Northern Mountainous regions of Vietnam Restructuring Proposal on Agriculture Sector in responding to climate change in Ninh Thuan province have been finalized for implementation

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 3	<p>The mechanisms for improving implementation of the Decree No 100 and 10 steps of breastfeeding at health facilities including Early Essential Newborn Care (EENC) when translated into national policies and regulations to re-enforce the above decree and regulations. Tools adapted for health facility strengthening focusing on early essential newborn care (EENC) and annual review of EENC implementation will be used nation-wide for improving quality of routine EENC in the whole country.</p> <p>TOT on capacity building on using guidelines for improving quality of EENC and assessment of EENC implementation is being conducted with 45 health staff attended.</p> <p>Assessment of EENC implementation in selected provinces (Ninh Thuan, Lao Cai, Khanh Hoa, Hue) is being conducted.</p>

VII. Additional Information

Additional Comments:

N/A

Attachments
