
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)
- Medical Research Institute (MRI)
- Ministry of Agriculture (MoAg) - 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

Name:

Una McCauley

Title:

UN Resident Coordinator, Sri Lanka

Organization:

Office of the Resident Coordinator

Contact information:

email: una.mccauley@one.un.org

phone: +94 11 2583805 / +94 777237030

Reporting Period Ending:

Monday, May 1, 2017

II. Contact Information

Resident Coordinator

Name:

Una McCauley

E-mail:

una.mccauley@one.un.org

UNCT contact person for implementation

Name:

Brenda Barton

Agency:

WFP

Title:

Representative and Country Director

E-mail:

brenda.barton@wfp.org

Phone:

+94 768079917

Address:

Two Jawatte Avenue, Colombo 5, 00500, Sri Lanka

Alternative UNCT contact person for implementation

Name:

Nina Brandstrup

Agency:

FAO

Title:

FAO Representative

E-mail:

nina.brandstrup@fao.org

Phone:

+94 777686880

Address:

UN Compound, 202 Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo
7, 00700, Sri Lanka

Technical team contacts

Joint programme coordinator

Name:

Sashrika Jayasinghe

Agency:

WFP

Title:

Joint Programme Coordinator / Programme Policy Officer

Email:

sashrika.jayasinghe@wfp.org

Phone:

+94 778998621

Address:

Two Jawatte Avenue, Colombo 5, 00500, Sri Lanka

JP monitoring and evaluation focal point

JP communications and advocacy focal point

JP knowledge management focal point

JP private sector focal point

Agency contact points

Contact 1

Name:

Anusara Singhkumarwong

Agency:

WFP

Title:

Nutrition Officer

Email:

anusara.singhkumarwong@wfp.org

Phone:

+94 774522434

Address:

Two Jawatte Avenue, Colombo 5, 00500, Sri Lanka

Contact 2

Name:

Saman Kalupahana

Agency:

WFP

Title:

Programme Policy Officer (Nutrition)

Email:

saman.kalupahana@wfp.org

Phone:

+94 774400584

Address:

Two Jawatte Avenue, Colombo 5, 00500, Sri Lanka

Contact 3

Name:
Priyanthi Chandrasekera

Agency:
FAO

Title:
Project Manager

Email:
priyanthi.chandrasekera@fao.org

Phone:
+94 768747536

Address:
UN Compound, 202 Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, 00700, Sri Lanka

Contact 4

Name:
Dharmassree Wijeratne

Agency:
FAO

Title:
Assistant FAO Representative (Programme)

Email:
dharmassree.wijeratne@fao.org

Phone:
+94 772130388

Address:
UN Compound, 202 Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, 00700, Sri Lanka

Contact 5

Name:
Muradh Mohideen

Agency:
Office of the UN Resident Coordinator

Title:
Head of Resident Coordinator's Office

Name:
muradh.mohideen@one.un.org

Phone:
+94 777995996

Address:
United Nations Sri Lanka, 202-204 Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, 00700, Sri Lanka

III. Financial information

Detailed Financial Report:

 [20170614 SDGF JP Fin Mon Rep 4 on AMENDED WP and Budget_DRAFT-FAO-WFP.pdf](#)

SDG-F Funds

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	36,432.00	428,089.00

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	72,204.00	487,756.00

Total	1,499,729.00	1,499,729.00	108,636.00	915,845.00
--------------	--------------	--------------	------------	------------

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	171,054.00	1,197,698.00
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	171,054.00	1,395,797.00
--------------	--------------	--------------	------------	--------------

IV. Beneficiaries

Total number of direct beneficiaries to date:

1185351

Direct Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers				
Entrepreneurs				

Civil servants/government	1,128	356	772	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 616 (101 female and 515 male) participants in the consultative meetings on the national nutrition surveillance system carried out in 6 districts; Further, 70 government officials (42 female and 28 male) participated in the National workshop for food fortification organized by WFP in March 2017. 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. Moreover, WFP provided fortified rice to 1,200 children (612 female; 588 male) in 30 schools in the Moneragala district through the pilot programme
Youth	398	261	137	WFP supported the National Youth Model United Nations conference in August 2016 by providing flyers and banners on SDGs. WFP also trained 38 enumerators (13 female and 25 male university students) on data collection for the rice fortification pilot trials in the Moneragala District
Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW)	14,762	14,762	0	PLW participated in the baseline survey conducted by MRI

Civil Society / Community	25,251	12,878	12,373	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. It was estimated that 21,000 people visited the exhibition (10,710 F and 10,290 M), thus benefitting from the nutrition education promotion. WFP provided nutrition awareness and fortified rice to 1,062 adults (parents of the children in the schools where the rice fortification acceptability trial was conducted) and provided a take home ration of fortified rice for their households - equivalent to approximately 3,182 beneficiaries (excluding children that already receive rice in school) as part of the pilot study in Moneragala in March 2017. Further, 4 women from 2 civil society organizations and 3 men from 3 NGOs participated in the food fortification workshop in March 2017.
ToTs for pre-schools including ECCD, WDO, CRPO officers and pre-school teachers	1,271	1,223	48	FAO supported 4 ToT workshops on pre-school nutrition and trainings for 1,142 pre-school teachers (1,137 F; 5 M) on nutrition in 19 out of 25 district trainings
Education specialists on school nutrition	3,629	2,420	1,209	Zonal-level trainings on school nutrition and ToT programmes on secondary school nutrition and school gardens (133 F, 244 M) were supported by FAO in each of the 9 provinces for with FAO support for in-service advisors of agriculture and nutrition, teachers, and zonal education directors, pre-service teachers (pre-service teachers 1,500 F, 594 M).
Private sector and Academia	25	3	22	18 representatives from 12 private sector firms, including rice millers and wheat flour producers attended the national food fortification workshop in March 2017
Total	1,185,351	612,735	572,616	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		

Government/municipal organizations	5.00	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). Through FAO, MoWCA and MoEd also benefit from the training programmes and technical material provided.
Private sector	12.00	18 people from 12 private sector firms, including rice millers and wheat flour producers, attended the national food fortification workshop in March 2017.
Community-based organizations	2	4 women participated from 2 CBOs in the national food fortification workshop held in March 2017
NGOs	3	3 people representing 3 NGOs participated in the national food fortification workshop held in March 2017
Academia	4	7 academics from 4 universities attended the national food fortification workshop in March 2017
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. The school baseline nutrition survey conducted by MRI included students from 262 schools across the country. Further, WFP rice fortification pilot programme covered 30 schools in Moneragala district.
Teacher Training Colleges	14	2094 Pre-service teachers from 14 teacher training colleges were trained on nutrition.
Total	10,184	

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 and the national workshop in March 2017.
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 in the Nuwara Eliya district, with 80 participants, including 55 women and 25 men. Based on the lessons learned from the first phase of implementation in Nuwara Eliya, WFP assisted the Ministry of Health to conduct meetings in 5 other districts, namely: Batticaloa, Matale, Kegalle, Ampara, Trincomalee, between January and March 2017, which involved 460 government personnel (76 female and 460 male) from various sectors, including, agriculture, poverty reduction, and other departments); totaling 616 government officers (101 F and 515 M) in 6 districts trained on the data collection tools for nutrition surveillance.

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 also conducted workshops throughout the country 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. The training programmes were continued between November 2016 and April 2017 for an addition 367 teachers (200 females and 167 males) in the Southern, North Central, and Sabaragamuwa Provinces.

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.

Further, through the ToT groups, FAO trained 2,094 pre-service teachers (594 M and 1,500 F) between November 2016 and April 2017 on nutrition promotion at 14 teacher training colleges at Hapitigama, Nilwala, Balapitiya, Unawatuna, Pasdunrata, Ruhuna, Saripuththa, Mahaweli, Siripada, Siyana, Wayamba, Ruwanpura, Peradeniya, and Pulahisipura. 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 completed trainings for 1,142 pre-school teachers (1,137 female and 5 male) in 19 out of 25 districts. During this reporting period, 575 female and 1 male pre-school teacher in 9 districts were trained. Low participation of males is due to high ratio of women pre-school teachers in the country.

WFP conducted a national food fortification workshop in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Food Fortification Initiative (FFI) on March 22-23, 2017. The workshop brought together a total of 107 people from government (70: 42F, 28M), 18 representatives from 12 private sector institutions, 2 civil society representatives, 2 NGOs, and 7 academia to discuss the way forward for food fortification (rice and wheat). To share regional and global experience, 2 participants from representing the Indian Government (state of Odissa, and Food Fortification Standard Institute), 1 participant from WFP India, 1 participant from WFP Bangladesh, 1 regional advisor of WFP and 2 experts from FFI also participated and presented at the workshop.

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. A data dissemination workshop was conducted on June 30, 2016 and the final report will be published in May 2017.</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 was completed and a data dissemination seminar was held in November 2016.</p> <p>Report of the schoolchildren surveys have been developed and will be published by June 2017.</p>	<p>On the PLW survey, Vitamin A and urine iodine sample analysis was delayed due to lack of technical staff in the MRI lab. Data clearance and compiling process also dragged unexpectedly due to some issues with the data quality. Progress review meetings were held every month to discuss the issues and to decide the remedial actions.</p> <p>On the school survey, after a late commencement in July 2016, the survey took three months to complete owing to delays due to exams and school holidays. Further, limited laboratory capacity for analyzing the urine iodine samples at MRI delayed data dissemination.</p> <p>The final report publication for both PLW and school children were delayed due to time taken to complete the data analysis and report writing, given the limited human resources within MRI. WFP followed up on the progress closely and provided technical input in to the drafting of the reports. School survey report is being drafted and is expected to be published by June 2017.</p>	<p>The PLW data was disseminated to stakeholders at workshop at the MRI auditorium on June 30, 2016. The final report will be published in May 2017.</p> <p>The results of the schoolchildren survey were disseminated in November 2016. The report for the schoolchildren surveys is currently being printed.</p> <p>The reports are expected to be launched by August 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 micronutrient 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. 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 was completed in December 2016.</p> <p>In parallel, to prepare for the production of 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 was selected through a transparent bidding process to provide a complete technical solution related to rice fortification blending facilities at the NFPB.</p> <p>New equipment for blending fortified rice was provided to the National Food Promotion Board (NFPB) to enhance the capacity of their facility in Kalankutti, Anuradhapura to support the blending, packaging, quality control, and the distribution of fortified rice for the pilot study and serve as a national reference point for rice fortification. Standing Operating Procedures (SoPs) were developed for NFPB and training on the new equipment and the pilot programme requirements were provided to 22 NFPB staff (21 males and 1 female) by the equipment installer and WFP, respectively in Jan. 2017.</p> <p>Procurement of local rice varieties and fortificant kernels required to produce the fortified rice for the pilot study was completed in October 2016. As a part of the pilot study sample of fortified rice was tested for the uniformity of blending and rice quality following the International ISO standards.</p> <p>The rice fortification pilot study was conducted in 30 schools and amongst 1,062 adults and their households in the Moneragala district during February to March 2017. Kandy was selected as the second district for the pilot programme and plans are underway to conduct the trial in the schools from June 2017 and is expected to be completed in August 2017. Laboratory based sensory evaluation will also be carried out amongst panelists to ensure that the result of the trial is controlled for bias.</p>	<p>With the extended time required for 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. As a mitigation, NFPB agreed to use their existing equipment to blend and pack the fortified rice for the pilot study, shifting to the new equipment when it arrives.</p> <p>The use of folic acid as one of the fortificants was questioned by the national health authorities, and as a result, a technical sub-committee was appointed by the national nutrition steering committee to review evidence to take a decision. 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 fortified rice kernels (FRK) from China through the WFP Regional Bureau, the FRK arrived in country later than was initially expected. Through the multi-sectoral collaboration of the Government of Sri Lanka, a smooth customs clearance process for the imported FRK was ensured. Although the trial in Moneragala was completed in March 2017, there has been a delay in starting the pilot study trial in Kandy due to complexity in obtaining ethical clearance for the study. Given that rice fortification remains a sensitive issue, there were several questions posed to the research team by relevant authorities, which needed time to clarify. The ethical clearance for the pilot study in Kandy is expected to be given to the research team at the beginning of May, following which, the trial will be conducted from June to July 2017.</p>	<p>The report on the pilot programme on the operational feasibility and acceptability of rice fortification is expected to be published in the third quarter of 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 with recommendations for appropriate remedial actions.</p> <p>The Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) document, which included key aspects of quality control, was also finalized and will be used as a basis for blending of rice fortification in the future.</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 JP played a strong advocacy role to convince the government (Ministry of Health) of the need of a national-level multi-sectoral 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, together with MoH in the lead, and MoAg, academia, and other UN agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WHO, as needed).</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 rice fortification technical expert from the WFP Regional Bureau Bangkok were obtained to support RIU in the landscape analysis. The international expert consultant 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>The findings of the landscape analysis has been presented at the national rice fortification workshop. It was used to inform decision makers of the possible opportunities and bottlenecks in introducing rice fortification in the country. The report is expected to be published in the 3rd quarter of 2017.</p> <p>A workshop for food fortification was held on 22-23 March 2017 with the participation of government ministries, private sector, academia, and civil society organizations and global participants from WFP Regional Bureau in Bangkok, and colleagues from WFP India and Bangladesh, government delegates from India and partners from the Food Fortification Initiative (FFI). The primary outcome of the workshop was the stakeholder-endorsed way forward for food fortification in the country. The call for Expression of Interest from private marketing companies to support the government to develop the national social marketing strategy for rice fortification has been developed and will be published by the first week of June. The social marketing strategy for rice fortification is expected to be completed by September 2017.</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 and 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 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. Delays occurred due to the fact that a lot of additional information had to be collected to complete the task started by RIU. The regional office of WFP has also further extended support by providing a technical expert from Food Fortification Initiative to assist in the finalization of the report, now expected to be completed by July 2017.</p> <p>The social marketing strategy development was held off given the direction of rice fortification initiative was unclear. Based on the findings of the landscape analysis it was revealed that although there is high opportunity for rice fortification in the country, the complexity is equally high due to large number of rice mills in the country, lack of regulatory framework for food fortification and lack of consensus on the entry point to scale up rice fortification in the country. However, the national workshop held in March allowed for this discussion to take place and decisions were taken to adopt a voluntary fortification framework for rice as well as to make a concerted effort to introduce it through social safety net. Based on these decisions, social marketing strategy could then be realistically developed.</p>	<p>The findings of the landscape analysis was presented at the national food fortification meeting in March 2017 and was used to help stakeholders to better understand the rice supply chain of the country and the possible entry point for the fortification process. The final report of the landscape analysis is expected to be published in July 2017.</p> <p>The report of the national food fortification workshop held in March 2017 is being developed in consultation with TAG and will be published in July 2017. The workshop report and outcomes will be used to prepare the roadmap for rice fortification going forward. The social marketing strategy is expected to be completed by September 2017.</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>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. NNSL conducts meetings on the MSAPN for national, regional, and district stakeholders.</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. The fortification policy directive was also presented at the national food fortification workshop.</p> <p>The national workshop on food fortification organized in March 2017, also brought over the government delegates from India and Bangladesh, which helped to advocate for the use of fortified food given that India and Bangladesh offer modality of implementation which Sri Lanka could learn from. The experience from India and Bangladesh helped to demystify some of the concerns related to food fortification. Based on the success of the exchange at the national workshop, WFP will assist the key government officials and private sector companies to visit India tentatively planned for September 2017 for on-site observation and discussion regarding the implementation and policy framework required.</p>	<p>There has been delays in the publication of the food fortification policy directive due to changes in human resources within the Ministry of Health. The report was drafted, finalized and presented at the national workshop. However, it will have to go through the approval process by high level government officials and this may take additional time due to the process within the government system.</p>	<p>National policy direction on food fortification will be available to provide technical guidance to streamline future fortification activities in the country.</p> <p>Food fortification workshop was organized in March 2017, involving public and private stakeholders and international delegates The workshop report will be finalized in June 2017.</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 (NCD), MoH in updating its information management system (IMS) for the nutrition sector surveillance of the country. As a first step, a workshop was organized in February 2016 in Nuwara Eliya to review the existing indicators of the National Nutrition Surveillance System and develop more realistic reporting indicators. The system was then tested out in Nuwara Eliya district until December 2016 to better understand the difficulties in reporting, usefulness of the indicators collected and others.</p> <p>Following the pilot phase of the national nutrition surveillance system, consultative meetings were held in 5 other districts (Batticaloa, Matale, Kegalle, Ampara, Trincomalee) between January to March 2017, including government stakeholders such as agriculture, poverty reduction officer, Health and others. The consultative meetings will be extended to all other 18 districts. Following the consultative meetings, district level training will be carried out by the Ministry of Health to start implementing the system.</p>	<p>There are two nutrition surveillance systems currently operating in the country: one under the ownership of the MoH and one under NNSL. It was not clear which system should be strengthened to continue as a national system. A series of discussions were held with NNSL and MoH to fine-tune each of the systems to avoid overlap of information.</p> <p>Following a series of discussion, it was decided that the nutrition surveillance system (under the ownership of the MoH) will be extended to all the 25 districts, given that the two systems serve different purposes: the MoH nutrition surveillance system is a macro-level multi-sectoral early warning system which takes into account into quarterly/yearly information on agricultural output, disease trends, rainfall, and other indicators, which may affect the nutrition outcome of population; On the other hand, the NNSL-supported system, looks at individual data collection and targets children and women who are vulnerable to malnutrition. Therefore it was recognized that the two systems are not duplicative but rather complementary to each other. WFP is currently working with MoH to determine the possibility of using the system to inform changes in the nutrition situation during current drought situation.</p>	<p>Integrated information management system with health, nutrition and food security data will be in place and fully operational by September 2017.</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 Division (ND), MoH prepared a ToR and budget and published the tender in September 2016 for a consultant to conduct the review. WFP also participated as a member of the expert committee appointed by the MoH to select the consultant and monitor the review process. Based on the transparent selection process led by the ND, the Institute of Health Policy (IHP) was selected to carry out the review of the National Nutrition Policy. The agreement will be signed from June 1 for a period of three months. 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 separately commissioned a National Strategic Review towards Zero Hunger, which is a comprehensive multi-stakeholder process, which will inform the revised MSAPN and nutrition policy review. Based on the request of SUN-PF will also support the secretariat to organize a national forum for civil society which will bring together members of the SUN-PF to discuss the work plan and best ways to ensure sustainability of the forum. This workshop is being planned for August 2017.</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 a national 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 ND recruiting a private entity to conduct the review. Following the consensus that ND may lead the review of the National Nutrition Policy, they have taken necessary steps to see it through. Further, discussions were made to determine that funds can be transferred directly from WFP to MoH (without going through the Treasury). WFP has transferred the fund to the MoH to start the policy review process with the consulting company that had already been selected. In addition, there have been a few delays in signing the contract due to changes in the Human Resources within the Ministry, for instance, the head of ND and the Secretary of Health who were taking lead in the process have both recently retired. It is expected that the signing of the agreement will be completed by the first week of June.</p>	<p>The review of the National Nutrition Policy is expected to be completed by August 2017, including recommendations for revising the policy with the integration of health, food security, and nutrition. The findings will be used to assist the Ministry in updating the nutrition policy in 2018. The recommendations will be submitted to NNSSL to inform the development of an updated, integrated, and coordinated, Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for Nutrition (MSAPN).</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<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.</p> <p>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 from WFP HQ in Rome 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 Coordination Division, MoH conducted a consultative meeting in July 2016 to discuss the recommendations of the report and the way forward.</p> <p>Further a supply chain assessment was completed in February 2017 by WFP international expert, and the findings have been shared and discussed with MoH. The assessment found several issues in the supply chain system of Thriposha, such as inadequate storage management at the field level and lack of adequate product tracking system. Based on this, WFP is planning to organize a south-south cooperation exchange visit to Rwanda, where WFP has supported a private company (African Food) to established a state of art food factory to produce specialized nutritious product (similar to Thriposha). It is anticipated that this visit will allow factory managers and personnel from Ministry of Health, and other stakeholders to fully understand the optimum quality and supply chain system required for such products. The visit is planned for July 2017. ToR for the visit has been prepared and shared with the Ministry of Health and the factory.</p> <p>As a next step in terms of improving the targeting and programme modality of Thriposha, WFP plans to work with MRI to carry out operational research between July and September 2017. The findings will be used to update the national protocol for supplementary feeding programme.</p>	<p>The experience of other countries in contributing to the increased availability of locally-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>After the workshop was completed in March, it was identified that sufficient budget will be available to organize an exchange visit. Therefore, WFP Sri Lanka has been in discussion with WFP Rwanda since to organize an exchange visit to observe the work of the state of art factory which is producing Super Cereal Plus. However, given that the factory in Rwanda is quite new, and was due to be officially launched by the President in May, it was decided to wait until this was completed before the plan is finalized.</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.</p> <p>The report of the supply chain assessment to identify gaps and areas for improvement has been developed and shared with Ministry of Health in May 2017.</p>
<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>During the inception workshop held on July 22, 2015, it was identified that the Children's Secretariat of MoWCA had already developed the minimum standards and there is a need to cover the gap in the existing guidelines by developing manuals and guidelines on Health & Nutrition for pre-schools</p> <p>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</p> <p>A validation workshop on the pre-school nutrition guidelines was held on June 13-14, 2016 and the content of the manuals was finalized and 5,000 books were printed in March 2017. The guidelines were distributed to all 1,142 pre-school teachers who participated in the training. Other books will be distributed during the remaining trainings.</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 NSSL 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>The 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.</p> <p>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> <p>The pre-School nutrition guidelines were distributed to 1,142 pre-Schools through the pre-school teacher training programme. The guidelines will continue to be distributed at the remaining pre-school teacher training programmes and the rest of the books, which have been handed over to the Children's Secretariat, will be distributed to other pre-schools around the country.</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 were 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. Updated teacher training manual, and development of module for parents (community) were submitted to the printer in February 2017 and are expected to in August 2017. The children's activity book on nutrition promotion is yet to be completed, pending drawings.</p> <p>Re-printing of the pre-school nutrition promotion leaflets (4) and posters (4) developed by MoH was completed in August 2016 in the Sinhalese language in in November 2016 in the Tamil medium.</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 until July 2017 in order to cover all 25 districts. To date, 1,142 pre-school teachers have been trained.</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. During month of December 2016 pre-schools teacher trainings cannot be scheduled due to year end concerts. With the extension to the project, the pre-school teacher trainings are going on per the revised schedule.</p>	<p>Update of nutrition module for teachers and the development of supplementary materials for parents were completed in February 2017 in both Sinhala and Tamil languages and have been submitted to the printer and expected to be distributed in August 2017.</p> <p>The children's activity book has been prepared in Sinhala and the Tamil medium is expected to be completed by June 2017, following finalization of the drawings.</p> <p>Re-printing of 8 MoH publications (4 leaflets and 4 posters) on pre-school nutrition promotion were completed in August, 2016 in the Sinhalese language and the Tamil translation was completed by end November 2016 and distributed to 1,142 pre-schools. Remaining materials will be distributed during the trainings and to other pre-schools by the Children's Secretariat.</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 July 2017.</p>
<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 MoWCA.</p> <p>The guidelines were printed and distributed to 1,142 teachers through the pre-school teacher training programme. Remaining materials will be distributed during the trainings and to other pre-schools through the Children's Secretariat.</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.</p> <p>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 NSSL during PMC and NSC meetings and at progress review meetings and a special meeting were arranged by NSSL 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. Mitigation have been successful and the activities are on track to be completed by the end of the programme.</p>	<p>Validation of the developed pre-school 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 and enhance nutritional value in food to improve nutritional levels of pre-school children.</p> <p>From August 2016, ToT groups have been training pre-school teachers on nutrition promotion for pre-school children. Training is expected to continue until July 2017.</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, 2015 and gaps were identified. The gaps were addressed at a meeting on October 29-30, 2015 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 were validated in February 2017 and the printed guidelines are expected to be distributed island-wide in August 2017 in all three languages (English, Sinhala, Tamil) 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. Completion of the curricular nutrition messages is expected in July 2017.</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 English translation has been completed and the Tamil translation is pending in June 2017. 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 an external type setter was contracted, editing of the supplementary book with nutrition messages for the school feeding programme has not yet been completed: a final validation workshop needs to be conducted to finalize the document, and this workshop will be scheduled for June 2017.</p>	<p>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 revised school feeding/nutrition guidelines are pending finalization and are expected to be ready for printing and circulation by end August 2017. School feeding guideline translation to Tamil medium and English medium is expected to be completed by end of June 2017. Printing and distribution of all three mediums is expected to be completed by end August 2017.</p>
<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 developed the School Health Promotion Program Information System in collaboration with MoEd and MoH. A database orientation workshop was conducted between January and March 2016 in each of the nine provinces across the island, resulting in 408 data entry operators being trained island-wide. 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. 108 desktops were distributed to 98 educational zones; 9 provincial education departments; and 1 to the Ministry. Similarly, 108 weighing scales were distributed for database data collection. As of the end April 2017, basic school information has been entered for all 10,000 schools island-wide and approximately 78% of all data entry of 2016 student information and 10% of 2017 student information has been entered; primarily due to data entry delay in the Central Province. Data entry completion is expected by August 2017. A new option has been incorporated to the database whereby MoE can transfer funds "on line" to suppliers for the government school feeding programme. This new feature is being piloted in the Uva Province and will be scaled up based on the results of the pilot.</p>	<p>Due to delays in obtaining concurrence and endorsement of NNSSL 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. Bid analysis and Local Procurement Committee meeting was held in October 2016. According to the Procurement officer, if computers are not available locally, they will need to be imported, resulting in the whole process taking at least two months; however, it was expected that the computers can be procured by the end of 2016. Delayed data entry may be attributed to delay in distribution of computers and insufficient quantity of computers provided. Further human resources for data entry is an issue. As a mitigation measure, JP has advised the ministry to address the issues to ensure sustainability of the system.</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>108 desktops were distributed to 98 educational zones; 9 provincial education departments; and 1 to the Ministry</p> <p>Similarly, 108 weighing scales were distributed to 98 educational zones; 9 provincial education departments; and 1 to the Ministry</p> <p>A new option has been incorporated to the database whereby MoE can transfer funds "on line" to suppliers for the government school feeding programme. This new feature is being piloted in the Uva Province and will be scaled up, based on the results of the pilot</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
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>A working group was formed to develop a manual for training education officers on food and nutrition and the ToT manual was developed for primary and secondary grades school nutrition education and will be published by July 2017.</p> <p>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 was finalized in February 2017. The supplementary books are being written on to CDs (6,000 Sinhala and 2,000 Tamil) and will be ready for distribution by June 2017 to primary and secondary schools.</p> <p>Provincial-level training programmes have been planned to be conducted between August 2016 and 2017. First disbursement of funds to the Ministry of Education for conducting trainings in 20 educational zones was made in July 2016 and the second disbursement will be made in May 2017 for trainings in another 20 educational zones. Following this, a third and final disbursement will be provided in July 2017 for another 20 zones.</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. A further extension to complete all 60 trainings was provided by FAO to MoEd until August 2017.</p>	<p>The ToT manual was developed for primary and secondary grades school nutrition education and will be published by July 2017.</p> <p>From the first disbursement, 142 teachers and 2,094 pre-services teachers (from 14 teacher training colleges) were trained on nutrition in 20 educational zones.</p> <p>Supplementary books on nutrition education in Primary Schools (FAO publication) were translated into Sinhalese & Tamil mediums and CD writing is in process, and is expected to be completed by end June 2017.</p>
JP Output 1.14: School garden programme improved to increase nutrition levels of school children	<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 provided 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. This commenced in September 2016 and will continue until September 2017. The trainings are being conducted by the ToT groups, together with the nutrition training for teachers.</p> <p>A supplementary book on School gardens, developed by MoE, is being printed. The Tamil medium translation is expected to be completed by end June 2017.</p> <p>Procurement of tools for the establishment of school gardens was completed and distributed of tools commenced in May 2017. MoEd agreed to source seeds from school communities. Establishment of school gardens is expected in 2,250 schools from June 2017 onwards.</p>	<p>Discussions between NNSSL 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 NNSSL that with the available time, the likelihood of reaching a target of 6,000 is very small.</p> <p>Translation of FAO Garden Tool 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 is expected to be completed by September 2016.</p> <p>The garden training at school-level by the ToT group also had to consider school holidays in August and December 2016 and had to work around the Grade 5 scholarship exams and the ordinary level examinations; thus limiting the time available for conducting the trainings. 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.</p> <p>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 was 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> <p>A supplementary book on School gardens, developed by MoE, is being printed. The Tamil medium translation is expected to be completed by end June 2017.</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 planned marketing strategy and capacity building, will inform the government on scaling up and incorporating rice fortification into national standards and development agendas. The national workshop conducted in March 2017, gained consensus on the way forward for rice fortification with a strategic work plan developed. This will facilitate the submission of cabinet paper, seeking endorsement of the highest level of government on the paving the way forward for scale up of the rice fortification efforts.

Also, strengthening the government's 40-year old locally fortified supplementary food programme (Thripasha), 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 for supplementary feeding.

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. In addition, approximately 5,000 copies of each document is printed for distribution to training participants and further distribution to relevant personnel who did not directly receive the training through the JP. These materials were also provided to NNSSL for the training programmes conducted by them and to the relevant ministries in hard and soft copy for future use, ensuring long-term utilization of the nutrition information products developed through this JP.

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 (NNSSL) in collaboration with 17 ministries. NNSSL is currently working on updating the MSAPN within the GoSL's Presidential Secretariat, further ensuring sustainability and continuation 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 in September 2016 and data disseminated in November 2016, evaluated 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 in 2017 will also allow for the integration of a gender transformative lens to policy and nutrition interventions. WFP is also exploring opportunity to bring in the expertise of the private sector to prepare a strategy for marketing and social behavior change

communication to strengthen the capacity of the Government, which will incorporate women's empowerment and gender equality considerations.

FAO continues to work directly with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Women and Child Affairs to educate and empower pre-school teachers, educators, 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. With a greater majority of female pre-school teachers and teachers, the trainings and other activities of the project directly influence women's behavior change towards the procurement and consumption of nutritious foods for their students, 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 (including rice millers and wheat producers) were further engaged during the rice fortification symposium conducted in March 2017 and in developing the social marketing strategy planned for July 2017. The participation of private sector stakeholders at the national symposium on fortification allowed for advocacy for private-public partnership in this sphere of intervention.

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

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 and WFP is working towards the publication of surveys, analyses, and studies for evidence-based decision-making.

In addition to the products previously shared by the JP, WFP produced the following publications during this reporting period:

- Report on: Thripasha Assessment and Product Diversification
- Brochure on: Rice Fortification Project
- Flyer on: Prevention of Under-Nutrition in Sri Lanka: Optimization of Locally-Produced Fortified Foods

These can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/edj0q2t7lwdxu96/AACDOHHgIDybFXecc4CE8B8Ea?dl=0>

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

WFP supported 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 3, Good Health and Well-Being; 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 2017 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; rice fortification initiatives; revamping the National Nutrition Surveillance Information System; and promoting locally-fortified food products, 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 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.

Engagement of the private sector, civil society organizations, and academia, international initiatives, and representatives from India, Bangladesh, and the Regional Bureau in Bangkok at the food fortification meeting held in March 2017 and the planned south-south collaborative visit to Rwanda later this year contribute towards SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals.

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
<p>Managerial practices (financial, procurement, etc.) implemented jointly by the UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs</p>	<p>WFP and FAO have regular JP meetings to review progress, and collaborate and coordinate among the two agencies. When bottlenecks are identified, the issues are elevated to the heads of agency and then to the UN RC for intervention and resolution. This managerial practice was successfully followed for addressing the issues in: obtaining the commitment of GoSL to the matching funds; seeking approval for the work plan and budget revisions; and the decision to request for a no-cost extension; among others. Further, both agencies participate in progress review meetings headed by NNSSL and UN RC, where decisions on programme implementation are deliberated and decided together with implementing partners.</p>
<p>Joint analytical work (studies, publications, etc.) undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs</p>	<p>WFP-supports 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. and in the wider stakeholder meetings on food fortification. Technical guidance and expertise from UNICEF was also provided in addition to the financial support towards the baseline nutrition surveys conducted by MRI.</p>
<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 as well as a cost-benefit analysis. 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>FAO is also liaising closely with WFP on the launch for the establishment of school gardens, planned for June 2017, including all relevant partners.</p>

Actions	Description
Other, please specify:	<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. 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> <p>Further, discussions of the heads of agencies of WFP, FAO, and UNICEF in increasing collaboration on nutrition interventions and further building on JP initiatives have been continuing since early 2017, in line with programme sustainability and the commitment of the forthcoming UNSDF for Delivering as One.</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 JP Coordinator also liaises with the UN RC office for informing the RC on project progress and issues and for coordinating social media updates; interacts regularly with the government oversight body, the National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NNSSL), 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. Further, the JP coordinator attends meeting with partners and counterparts together with or on behalf of WFP and FAO staff, as necessary and represents either agency, as required.

In addition, any documentation, such as the 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 One UN delivery. 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 and the regular JP monitoring reports.

As detailed above, FAO and WFP collaborate in supporting the rice fortification and school gardening initiatives 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. In addition, efforts of both agencies in the JP (WFP and FAO) were highlighted to the WFP Executive Director on her visit to the field in February 2017, further underlining the collaboration of the Rome-based agencies in Sri Lanka. 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 NNSSL with all implementing ministries and stakeholders, as well as the JP PMC and NSC meetings.

National Ownership: Paris, Accra and Busan Commitments

The SDGF 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	<p>All activities of the JP are conducted in close collaboration with the government. The National Nutrition Secretariat of Sri Lanka (NSSL) 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoH convenes the WFP-supported monthly meetings of the multi-sector Technical Advisory Group for food fortification • MoAg supports rice fortification initiatives led by MoH blending, producing, and delivering fortified rice for the pilot study and serving as a model rice fortification blending facility • MoEd works 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	<p>Fortified rice kernels (FRK) were procured from the international 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, Leading private sector companies in the rice milling industry attended the rice fortification workshop and gave their inputs to develop way forward of the rice fortification the country. In addition, the private sector is involved in providing services such as meeting room facilities for stakeholder consultations and workshops.</p>

Partners	Involvement *	Type of involvement	Examples
Civil Society	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Other Please specify: survey/study participants; exhibition attendees	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 is being considered in the WFP-supported MoH review of the Policy. Households and schoolchildren benefited from the rice fortification pilot study, especially by providing feedback on acceptability and civil society organizations participated in the multi-stakeholder workshop in March 2017. 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	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Service Provision	Experts from universities attend the WFP-supported monthly TAG meetings on food fortification and Representatives from academia actively participated in the national workshop for rice fortification held in March 2017. Academics also participated in FAO-supported consultative meetings on developing nutrition guidelines, circulars, ToT manuals, and curricular material for JP activities with MoEd. FAO engages with a professor in nutrition from the University of Wayambe who has served as consultant, overseeing the development of most of FAO's nutrition promotion products. Further, the University of Peradeniya was contracted to conduct the rice fortification pilot study in collaboration with a WFP consultant from the University of Wayamba.

* 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 (NNSL) 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, NNSL 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, NNSL 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. While meetings on the JP by NNSL have not been as regular in the last year

of the JP, activities are continuing without hindrance due to the great momentum that was built up in the peak period of the programme, with NNSL monitoring progress at their other coordination meetings and over the phone.

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 NNSL is employed together with sub-national/regional government officers and academia to see the pilot study through.

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

The NNSL convenes the NSC and PMC meetings with the UN RC (or delegate/agency head) 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, NNSL; 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. While meetings on the JP by NNSL have not been as regular in the last year of the JP, activities are continuing without hindrance due to the great momentum that was built up in the peak period of the programme, and with NNSL assisting with policy advice and coordination from strategic level as required (for example, in mitigating and resolving sub-national concerns that were voiced on rice fortification pilot study in a particular district).

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 through the sharing of the bi-annual monitoring report and through other updates, as requested, and attendance at meetings and events. The Honorary Consul for Spain in Sri Lanka also attended a meet-and-greet event with the WFP Executive Director, following her visit to the JP project site in Moneragala in February 2017; further strengthening horizontal coordination and appreciation of the donor for this JP.

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'. Further, discussions of the heads of agencies of WFP, FAO, and UNICEF in increasing collaboration on nutrition interventions and further building on JP initiatives have been continuing since early 2017, in line with programme sustainability and the commitment of the forthcoming UNSDF for Delivering as One. Regular meetings of the JP team has ensured teamwork and partnership in implementing project activities.

Further, vertical coordination between NSSL 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. Further, the nutrition promotion and education include information on WASH.

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 17	<p>The fortification efforts conducted by WFP through the JP include contributions from other country experience and technology transfer for capacity building for the production of fortified rice in Sri Lanka. WFP strengthened South-South cooperation through collaboration with other countries in the region (India, Bangladesh, etc.) for rice fortification, through the sharing of best practices and technical knowledge transfer.</p> <p>WFP is planning to assist the government in improving the locally-fortified supplementary food, Thripasha, through another South-South collaboration with a WFP-supported supplementary feeding programme in Rwanda. Further, a food technologist from WFP HQ completed a mission to development a Thripasha improvement plan which was endorsed by the government.</p> <p>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.</p>

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 MoWCA mean that the pre-school training programmes needed to be conducted through July 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 was instrumental to ensure completion of project activities and reaching of targets. Together with the NCE, minor amendments to the approved revised budget were also submitted. 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.

With the duration of this JP now drawing to a close, heads of agencies of WFP, FAO, and UNICEF and technical staff have been having ongoing discussions since early 2017 on scaling up the initiatives started through this JP and increasing collaboration on nutrition interventions between the three agencies, in line with the sustainability of the programme, the commitment of the forthcoming UNSDF for Delivering as One, and towards reached the SDGs, especially SDG2: Zero Hunger.

Attachments

Performance Monitoring Framework *:

 [20170615 SDGF JP SL_Perf Mon Frmwrk 4_WFP-FAO_final.pdf](#)

Publications and reports generated by the JP *:

-  [20170613 Flyer_Rice Fortification_WFP_final.pdf](#)
-  [20170613 Flyer_Thriposha_WFP_final.pdf](#)
-  [20170613 Report_Thriposha Assessment_final.pdf](#)

Additional documentation:

-  [20170614 SDGF JP Fin Mon Rep 4 on AMENDED WP and Budget_DRAFT-FAO-WFP.xls](#)
-  [20170616 SDGF JP Sri Lanka_Photos with Captions.pdf](#)
-  [20170616 SDGF JP UN RC Cover Letter.pdf](#)
-  [20170616 SDGF JP SL_Narr Mon Report 4_WFP-FAO_Final.pdf](#)

File sharing service :

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/edj0q2t7lwdxu96/AACDOHHgIDybFXecc4CE8B8Ea?dl=0>
