

Quarterly Member Newsletter

October 2015



What is the SUN Movement?

Scaling Up Nutrition, or SUN, is a unique, global Movement founded on the principle that all people have a right to food and good nutrition. It unites people—from governments, civil society, the United Nations, donors, businesses and researchers—in a collective effort to improve nutrition. Together we are achieving what no one of us can do alone. 55 Countries and the State of Maharashtra, India have committed to scaling up nutrition. More than 2,100 organizations are currently supporting national plans to scale up nutrition.

In May 2013, the Government of Myanmar signed onto the SUN Movement, demonstrating its commitment to improving the nutrition, health and wellbeing of its citizens. The official launch took place in February 2014 at a ceremony in Naypyitaw and was well attended by stakeholders, including government representatives, donors, UN agencies, the private sector, and civil society organizations.

Soe Lwin Nyein, Director General of the Department of Public Health in the Ministry of Health, is the SUN Focal Point for Myanmar.

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SUN Civil Society Alliance Myanmar

Civil society is an essential component to the SUN Movement. The SUN Civil Society Alliance Myanmar launched in February 2015 with the goal of uniting civil society organizations in order to ensure a voice is given to a range of small, independent, regional and national organizations to contribute to the national dialogue on nutrition and achievement of SUN priorities.

The CSA is hosted by Save the Children and funded by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) through UNOPS. Forty-one organizations are currently members of the



CSA (28 local NGOs). The CSA Steering Committee was elected in 2014 and is composed of seven international NGOs that played an active role in the initial development of the CSA. The day-to-day activities of the CSA are overseen by the SUN Secretariat, which includes a Program Officer and an international consultant.

Member Workshop in Yangon

On August 28th, 2015, the Myanmar SUN CSA hosted a workshop in Yangon for all existing and potential new members. The purpose of the workshop was to strengthen the newly formed CSA through learning, participatory strategic planning, and experience sharing. Specific objectives of the workshop were:

1. To raise the awareness of CSA members on how to facilitate nutrition activities in their communities;
2. To raise the awareness of CSA members on how to monitor the Order of BMS Marketing in their communities;

Welcome to our new members!

The SUN CSA Myanmar would like to welcome new members to the Alliance!

Local NGOs:

1. Swan Saung Shin
2. Lin Yaung Chi
3. Pin Lae Pyar Yae Phan Tee Shin
4. Pann Pyoe Lett Foundation
5. Chan Myae Metta Cooperative Society (CMMCS)
6. Khumi Youth Development (KYD)
7. Nomin Woman Development Group (NWDG)
8. Kyel Sin May
9. Network Activity Group (NAG)
10. Chin Youth Organization (CYO)
11. Kyaukme District Women Development Association (KDWDA)
12. May Myanmar Women's Development Cooperative Society Ltd.
13. New Generation

International NGOs:

1. PATH

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



- To develop a strategic plan for the CSA in 2016 that is in line with the activities of members and their identified capacity development needs.

70 participants from 37 different NGOs participated in the workshop (26 local NGOs and 11 INGOs). NGO representatives came from Yangon Division, Chin State, Shan State, Ayeyarwaddy Region and Magway Region. Additionally, two government representatives, from the Yangon Regional Public Health Department and the Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA), participated in the workshop.

Support for National Nutrition Promotion Month

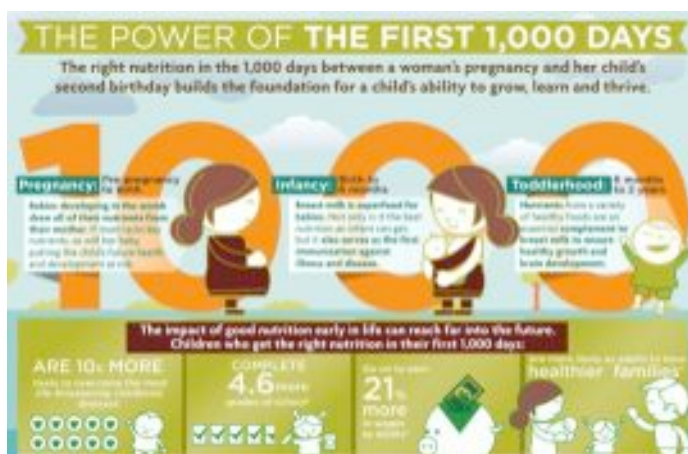
The SUN CSA Myanmar supported National Nutrition Promotion Month activities this August. We provided 5,000 copies each of 3 fliers on stunting, breastfeeding, and the first 1,000 days. These fliers were distributed at national level activities in Naypyitaw and in various States and Regions with the help of UNICEF. These fliers were also provided in soft copy to CSA members at the workshop in August. Please let us know if your organization would like soft copy versions of these or other materials.

The SUN CSA Myanmar also supported notebooks for midwives and gifts for model mothers at the National Nutrition Promotion Month event in Yangon.



Mapping of CSA Members

The SUN CSA Myanmar Secretariat will be continuing a mapping exercise to collect information about CSA members. Members will be asked to provide details about their work by completing a survey either by phone or email. This information will help the Secretariat identify existing capacities of CSA members and capacity development needs as well as opportunities for exchanges, joint activities, and cross learning. We look forward to your responses!



New Activities and Funding for the SUN CSA Myanmar: Monitoring the Order of Marketing of Formulated Foods for Infants and Young Children

Myanmar released the “Order of Marketing of Formulated Food for Infant and Young Child” under the National Food Law in August 2014. Since then, UNICEF has been coordinating and supporting the government with enforcement and Save the Children has piloted monitoring activities using a mobile application in humanitarian program areas.

The SUN CSA has received a grant from Save the Children UK to support activities to strengthen monitoring and implementation of the Order, including: training on how to monitor the Order, IEC materials development and distribution, advocacy with government partners and the private sector, and awareness-raising in communities where CSA members are working. The CSA Secretariat will be in touch soon with opportunities to participate in these activities!

SUN Global Gathering in Milan

Dr. Thet Aung, Health Department Manager at World Vision International Myanmar, and Ms. Andrea Menefee, Thematic Advisor for Nutrition at Save the Children Myanmar represented the SUN CSA Myanmar at the 2015 SUN Movement Global Gathering in Milan, Italy from October 20th – 22nd. Other members of the Myanmar delegation included the SUN focal point, Dr. Soe Lwin Nyein and Director of the National Nutrition Center, Dr. May Khin Than, along with a representative from the UN network.

The purpose of the 2015 SUNGG was to take stock of the lessons from the year and define the direction of the Movement in the coming year. This year there was also a special focus on shaping the future of the SUN Movement, with discussions on the renewed strategy and roadmap for 2016-2020.



We will be sharing key documents and findings from the Global Gathering soon!

Call to Action for Nutrition

The SUN CSA Myanmar joined civil society organizations from all over the world in signing on to a “Call to Action on Malnutrition to all Government Leaders” in advance of the *Nutrition for Growth Summit* to be held in Rio during the summer of 2016. This document calls on government leaders to “increase investments directed toward ending malnutrition in all its forms and achieving the internationally agreed-upon World Health Assembly targets to improve maternal, infant and young child nutrition.”

See the entire Call to Action here:

<http://www.thousanddays.org/a-call-to-action-on-malnutrition>



Former SUN CSA Program Manager selected as Nutrition Champion

Dr. San San Myint, former Program Manager for the SUN CSA Myanmar and current Head of the 3MDG Program at Save the Children, was recently selected as one of the “Top 10” Transform Nutrition Champions of 2015 for her work to improve nutrition in Myanmar. Look for her story on the Transform Nutrition website (www.transformnutrition.org) soon.

Congratulations and thank you, Dr. San San!

Updates from the SUN Movement

What is the structure of the SUN Movement?

The **SUN Networks** are groups of stakeholders working to shift resources and align actions to support country efforts for improved nutrition. The networks are:

- Civil Society Network
- Donor Network
- Business Network
- UN System Network



Overall support for and coordination of the Movement is provided by:

- **SUN Movement Lead Group**, which is made up of high-level leaders that represent the array of partners engaged with SUN. Lead Group members are appointed by the UN Secretary General, and are collectively responsible for the functioning of the Movement.
- **SUN Movement Secretariat**, which operates under the strategic guidance of the Lead Group. The Secretariat links together countries and networks in the SUN Movement to ensure coordinated support for nutrition actions.

For more information about the SUN Movement as well as the latest news and helpful resources, please visit <http://scalingupnutrition.org>.

Updates from the SUN Civil Society Network (CSN)

The CSN supports national CSAs in SUN countries. The CSN also works to encourage grassroots contributions in the development of national plans to scale up nutrition so that these reflect and are adapted to the needs and reality of the communities suffering from multiple burdens of malnutrition.

CSAs like the one in Myanmar have been established in 34 countries. These alliances bring together an estimated 2,100 organizations across the SUN Movement.

Check out the SUN CSN blog at <http://suncivilsociety.net.wix.com/suncsnblog> for up-to-date information and resources.

CSN Package of Guidance and Tools

The SUN CSN has developed a package of documents about the network and guidance tools (available at: <http://scalingupnutrition.org/the-sun-network/civil-society-network/sun-civil-society-key-documents>).

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

Please contact us!

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