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|  | SUN Movement Multi-Partner Trust Fund  | UN Logo |

**PROGRAMME1 QUARTERLY PROGRESS UPDATE**

***as of March 31, 2016***

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| **Participating UN Organization:**  | **UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN FUND** |
| **Implementing Partner(s):**  | **Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria** |
| **Programme Number:**  | **00094057** |
| **Programme Title:** | **Mobilizing and Strengthening Civil Societies to Scale Up Nutrition in Nigeria** |
| **Total Approved Programme Budget:** | **US$\_\_212,943.4\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |
| **Location:** | **Nigeria (Abuja)** |
| **MC Approval Date:** | **13th January, 2015** |
| **Programme Duration:** | **12 months** | **Starting Date:** | **13th January, 2015** | **Completion Date:**  | **31st December, 2016** |
| **Funds Committed:**  | **US$\_212,943.4\_\_\_\_\_** | **Percentage of Approved:** | **100** |
| **Funds Disbursed:** | **US$ 126,072.13** (15,771.12 for the quarter) | **Percentage of Approved:** | **59** |
| **Expected Programme Duration:** | **24** | **Forecast Final Date:**  | **31st December, 2016** | **Delay (Months):** | **12** |

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| **Outcomes:** | **Achievements/Results:** | **Percentage of planned:** |
| **Outcome 1:** CSOs in Nigeria are identified, mapped, and capacities enhanced | Local Working Group (LWG) Coordinators mobilized for action in 10 states and FCT. Identification of new CSOs ongoing  | 60%  70% |
| **Outcome 2:** CS-SUNN contributes to public awareness and consensus on malnutrition | Advocacy engagements conducted with high policy level participation where nutrition visibility was raised through Town Hall Meeting on 19th February, 2016. The Nigeria Senate and Ministry of Women Affairs & Social Development.  A Media Round Table held to flag off the Town Hall meeting with over 20 Media Practitioners in attendance with a subsequent press release.  | 75%      50% |
| **Outcome 3:** CS-SUNN contributes to policy, legal and budgetary frameworks that address nutrition issues. | LWG Coordinators in 10 states participated in policy dialogue activities on increasing investment for nutrition in Nigeria.   | 85%  |
| **Outcome 4:** CS-SUNN strengthens in-country accountability for progress in tackling under-nutrition            | CS-SUNN convened a stakeholder (National Town Hall) discussion on February 19th, 2016, in Abuja, to discuss the theme: ***Strengthening in-Country Accountability in Maternal, Child and Adolescent Nutrition in Nigeria*.**  2nd Edition Newsletter disseminated at Town hall meeting, FCT and to 36 states.  Report on Desk Review of Data on maternal and child nutrition carried out and was presented at the APHPN 2016 AGM & Scientific Conference on 16th March 2016, in Abuja.   1st Biannual Progress (August 2015 – February 2016) report produced. 400 copies to be printed and disseminated to 36 states & FCT.  | 50% ( 2 National Town Hall meetings planned)  50%   100%    40%  |
| **Outcome 5:** CSO networks enhance learning between organizations    | CS-SUNN LWG state coordinators convened side meetings after the National Town hall meeting to further strengthen state level Coordination groups.  Produced Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) Strategy (2015 – 2018). It was disseminated with 200 copies printed and distributed.  | 30% 100%  |

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| **Qualitative achievements against outcomes and results:** |
| **CSOs in Nigeria are identified, mapped, and capacities enhanced:** In an effort to strengthen the mobilization of CSOs for nutrition, CS-SUNN Local Working Groups (LWGs) in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and other ten states and 10 focal states including Adamawa, Anambra, Akwa Ibom, Delta, Enugu, Gombe, Kebbi, Kwara, Lagos and Sokoto participated in the National Town Hall meeting in Abuja, on 19th February 2016 and exchange ideas, shared experiences and way forward for strengthening CSOs. **CS-SUNN contributes to public awareness and national consensus about the problems of malnutrition and their solutions:** CS-SUNN continued to create awareness through the production of the quarterly Newsletter: A total of 18,500 copies of the second edition of the CS-SUNN Newsletter *“Nigeria Nutrition Update****”*** were produced in February 2016***.*** 500 copies eachwere disseminated to the 36 states and FCT using the platforms of the Local Working Groups and the States Nutrition Officers. Also a series of advocacy activities took place during the period.CS-SUNN conducted advocacy visits to the offices of key stakeholders in a lead up to a national town hall meeting. The Honourable Minister of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, and the Senate Committee Chairman (Senator Oluremi Tinubu) of the Senate Committee for Women Affairs sent high level representations to the meeting.A Media Round table and press release was also carried out during the period. The team for the media engagement was on “The Role of the Media in Strengthening In-Country Accountability on Maternal Child and Adolescent Nutrition in Nigeria”. A total of 42 persons from the media participated in the event that was meant to help the media understand the need for Accountability on Maternal, Child and Adolescent Nutrition in Nigeria, and for effective, efficient and continuous reportage of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Nutrition in Nigeria. The CS-SUNN participated in the 58th National Council on Health meeting held in Sokoto State from 7th – 11th March 2016. The theme of the event was:*“Universal Health Coverage: an Agenda for change”.* CS-SUNN used the forum to engage key stakeholders and created public awareness on nutrition priorities, on 9th March., 2016. A food show highlighting local nutritious recipes and food items was highlighted in the event whiles copies of the CS-SUNN BCC strategy and newsletter were disseminated at the forum. **CS-SUNN contributes to policy, legal and budgetary frameworks that address the needs of the most vulnerable:** CS-SUNN convened a policy dialogue meeting with policy makers from the government and including representation from the Ministry of Gender and Social Affairs, and the National House of Assembly. Participants discussed mainstreaming nutrition into sector policies. **CS-SUNN strengthens in-country accountability for progress in tackling under-nutrition:** The 2nd edition of the CS-SUNN Newsletter that was produced during the quarter contained key accountability issues towards tackling nutrition in Nigeria. It was expected that the 18,500 copies of the *“Nigeria Nutrition Update”*that was disseminated to 36 states using the platform of the States Nutrition Officers will help strengthen accountability.CS-SUNN convened a National Town Hall meeting on February 19th, 2016 with the theme “*Strengthening In-Country Accountability in Maternal, Child and Adolescent Nutrition in Nigeria”*at the Bolton White Hotels, Abuja. The purpose of the meeting was to provide a platform for stakeholders to deliberate on the best ways in ensuring the implementation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition. Over 150 nutrition stakeholders participated, including representatives from Legislators, Government, Traditional Leaders, UNICEF, Save the Children International, Action Against Hunger, Association for the Advancement of Family Planning, Development Research Partners, Centre for the Right to Health (CRH), SUN Business Network, Media, Professional Associations, and other NGOs. The event was meant to: (1) present current data on Nutrition and Tools that will support tracking of nutrition interventions and help to encourage more effective nutrition programming; (2) identify opportunities and potential barriers to the adoption and implementation of the National Strategic Plan of Action for Nutrition (NSPAN); and (3) discuss stakeholders’ roles in accountability and tracking of nutrition interventions. The event started with the Media Roundtable, and was followed by the Town Hall Meeting presentations and dialogue using the Open Space Technology (OST) Methodology. At the end of the Town Hall Meeting, stakeholders called on the different nutrition actors for the following:1. ***Federal, State and Local Governments:***  create nutrition specific budget lines in the ministries of Health, Education and Agriculture at the Federal, States and LGAs levels in Nigeria; (ii) develop costed nutrition plans of action in all the state and LGA levels; (iii) Provide budgetary allocation for the implementation of the NSPAN (2014-2019) in the 2016 Budget appropriation, with emphasis on Maternal, Child and Adolescent nutrition, and ensure timely release of funds; (iv) extend maternity leave to six months, in order to protect Exclusive Breastfeeding; (v) reallocate some funds from the school feeding program to address optimum nutrition in the first 1000 days of life; (vi) include Nutrition education into the school system, at both the formal and informal levels and (vii) update skills of Health Care Workers at the Primary Health Care levels on Infant and Young Child Feeding practices.
2. ***Legislators at National and State levels:***  (i) ensure inclusiveness in funding for Maternal, Child and Adolescent nutrition Interventions; (ii) carry out oversight functions for implementation of the NSPAN (2014-2019); (iii) create a Committee on nutrition.
3. ***Media:***  (i) play a watchdog role in following up with nutrition budget allocation and releases; (ii) bring to public attention the efforts in addressing under-nutrition in Nigeria; (iii) amplify the voices of the voiceless women and children whose lives are threatened by severe malnutrition.
4. ***Private Sector:***  (i) support policy implementation through the development of low cost, nutritious complementary foods and home fortification of staple foods; and (ii) support Community investment in data management and surveillance.
5. ***CSOs/NGOs and Nutrition Partners:***(i) Advocate for the implementation of maternal and child nutrition interventions; (ii) promote sustained community health education on nutrition; (iii) continue the mobilization of resources to support nutrition interventions at all levels; (iv) provide technical support, including best practices, to scale up nutrition in Nigeria. (v) build government capacity on data management, surveillance and the use of Freedom of Information bill to track funds released for nutrition.

The Communiqué and Action points were adopted by the participants for onward transmission to all nutrition stakeholders for implementation on 19th of February, 2016. The highly interactive open space technology (OST) methodology allowed participants to think through ideas, generate discussions and bring up recommendations to strengthen in-country accountability in maternal, child and adolescent nutrition. CS-SUNN partnered with the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) to carry out a Desk Review of data on Nutrition activities, using secondary data from SMART and NDHS. The data will support tracking of nutrition interventions and to help policy makers within the platforms to encourage more effective programming. Report of the exercise was presented at a plenary session during the 32nd APHPN AGM & Scientific Conference on 16th March 2016, in Abuja. The report highlighted that severe stunting is greatest in Sokoto and Kebbi and recommended that (i) Children under five years old in these regions should be targeted with interventions that will improve their nutritional status so that they “catch up” with their peers in other parts of the country; (ii) Breast feeding campaigns should be continued at every level of care; (iii) Governments at all levels should establish poverty alleviation programs to improve the lives of the people, and (iv) Female empowerment should be pursued by relevant stakeholders. Lastly, under this output, the 1st Biannual Progress (August 2015 – February 2016) report was produced. The report contained accountability issues for scaling up nutrition in Nigeria. **CS-SUNN enhances learning between organizations & states:** As part of enhancing learning, CS-SUNN disseminated its Behavior Change Communication (BCC) Strategy (2015-2018). A total of the Strategy were produced and copies disseminated at a Town Hall meeting. Also disseminated was the 2nd Edition of the CS- SUNN Quarterly Newsletter in the same town hall meeting. |

 The term “programme” is used for projects, programmes and joint programmes.