



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

REPORT ON THE SECOND AFRICA REGIONAL NUTRITION COORDINATION AND PROGRAMMING CONSULTATION



**Advancing Multisectoral Nutrition Sensitive Food Systems
Post ICN-2 for Africa**

**22-24 July, 2015
Accra, Ghana**

Nutrition

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- German funded project on mainstreaming nutrition into CAADP
- German funded ECOWAS Hunger Free Initiative
- FAO – RAF Regular budget for Nutrition
- Selected country office support to participants

Special gratitude is extended to the Communication Unit of the Regional Office, for directly funding and technically supporting the communication component (rollers, banners, video documentary, media and press coverage) of the consultation.

Acronyms

ADG: Assistant Director General
AFAOR / FAOR: Assistant FAO Representative / FAO Representative
ARNS: Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy
CAADP: Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CARM: Corporate Are for Resource Mobilization
CFS: Committee on World Food Security
CPF: Country Programming Framework
ECHO: European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department
ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States
ENACT/ENAF: Education for effective Nutrition in Action / ENACT in Francophone Africa
ESD: Economic and Social Development Department
ESN: FAO Head Quarters Nutrition Division
FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCT: Food Composition Table
IAEA: International Atomic Energy Agency
ICN-2: Second International Conference on Nutrition
IDDS / WDDS: Individual Dietary Diversity Score / Women Dietary Diversity Score
IFAD: International Fund for Agriculture Development
IGAD: Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IYCF: Infant and Young Child Feeding
MAW: Major Area of Work
MDD: Minimum Dietary Diversity
MDG: Millennium Development Goal
NAFSIP: National Agriculture and Food Security Investment plan
NGO: Non-Government Organization
NPCA/NEPAD: NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency
OCHA: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
RAF: Regional Office for Africa
REACH: Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and undernutrition
REOWA: Regional, Resilience, Emergency and Rehabilitation Office for West Africa
RI: Regional Initiative
SDG: Sustainable Development Goal
SO: Strategic Objective
SSA: Sub Saharan Africa
SUN: Scaling-Up Movement
TCI: Investment Center Division
TCP: Technical Cooperation Programmes
UN: United Nations
UNGNA: United Nations Global Nutrition Agenda
UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
UNSCN: United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition
WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP: World Food Program
WFS: World Food Summit
WHA: World Health Assembly
WHO: World Health Organization
ZHC: Zero Hunger Challenge
ZHI: Zero Hunger Initiative

Background information

The Second FAO Africa Regional Nutrition Coordination and Programming Consultation meeting was organized by FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF) in collaboration with the Nutrition Division of FAO Head Quarters in Rome (ESN) from the 22nd to the 24th of July 2015 at Alisa Hotel in Accra, Ghana. The main objective was to improve the coordination of FAO's Nutrition interventions in particular mainstreaming nutrition into agriculture policies, programmes and investment plans and jointly reinforce technical capacity in advancing nutrition sensitive programming through multi-sectoral strategies. It was also the opportunity to discuss the Post ICN-2 agenda for Africa, the Malabo Declaration and the CAADP Nutrition Initiative in Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) being implemented, jointly by FAO and NPCA/NEPAD.

This second regional nutrition consultation brought together close to 60 Nutrition Experts from 32 country, sub-regional and regional offices, and FAO Head Quarters (Refer to attached list of participants at annex).

This report highlights the outcomes of the three-day deliberations of the consultation with key recommendations and next steps. A book of abstracts has been compiled for all the different presentations and poster session of the consultation.

The three-day consultation, was facilitated by Charlotte Dufour and Mawuli Sablah.

Expected results

The expected outputs included the following:

- Clear understanding of the Nutrition challenges and food systems in Africa
- Nutrition officers and focal points were sensitized on ICN-2 follow-up in relation to CAADP and the Malabo Declaration/implementation strategy and roadmap with linkages to FAO country programming frameworks (CPFs)
- Clarified role of FAO in the implementation of the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy (ARNS)
- Nutrition Officers and Focal Points were equipped with key knowledge, tools, lessons learnt on priority areas relevant to FAO's Nutrition programming (including cross cutting themes: social protection, gender, school nutrition and food safety)
- Reinforced team-work and coordination for delivering nutrition sensitive policies, programmes and investment plans that are directly in line with FAO's institutional strategic objectives (SOs)
- Strategic approach to strengthening coordination and partnerships on nutrition at all levels
- Improved strategic engagement by FAO Nutrition Staff with REACH mechanisms and support to government on Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) processes with agriculture-nutrition linkages, for governments to adequately capture these in their planning and implementation processes
- Lessons learnt from Joint Programmes on food security and nutrition as well as CPFs.
- Clarified internal communication and reporting mechanisms on nutrition in FAO
- Shared resources from country, regional and global levels on nutrition with Colleagues

Session 1: Opening ceremony

The Consultation began with an official opening ceremony. The Senior Nutrition Officer for the Region, Dr. Mohamed Ag Bendeck gave a welcome address following which the Nutrition Director of FAO from Head Quarters; Prof. Anna Lartey delivered the Key Note Address. This was directly followed by a good-will message from the Deputy Ambassador of Germany to Ghana, His Excellency Bernhard Abels, who represented the German Ambassador. Germany is one of the key donors for FAO Africa Regional Nutrition Initiatives. His Excellency Jomo Sundaram, Assistant Director General (ADG) – Economic and Social Development Department (ESD) from FAO Head Quarters, provided further key highlights on FAO's commitment to Nutrition at global level after which His Excellency Bukar Tijani, ADG – Regional Representative for Africa delivered his opening remarks and declared open the consultation with all his blessings for very fruitful deliberations.

In his welcome address, **Dr. Ag Bendeck** reiterated the need to institutionalize the Regional Nutrition Consultations to undertake systematic analysis on food security and nutrition situation on the Africa continent and technically update colleagues while sharing experiences on nutrition programming at all levels. He indicated that this year's consultation was significantly important to FAO's post ICN-2 commitment of reducing all forms of malnutrition and eliminating undernourishment from Africa under the Rome Declaration and its framework for action and the UN Global Nutrition Agenda (UNGNA) in the era of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Prof. Lartey, in her keynote address underscored the current global pre-eminence of nutrition on the development agenda and its implication for FAO, particularly in the Africa region. She explained the current trends affecting the effectiveness of the international food system to improving nutrition and the transformation that had taken place over the past 10 years in the global nutrition landscape to tackle those challenges: The SUN Movement, G8 Summit, World Health Assembly (WHA) nutrition targets, Committee for Food Security (CFS), Malabo Declaration, ICN-2, SDGs, etc. Nutrition being one of FAO's seven top priorities and stipulated in the FAO's constitutional mandate, Prof. Lartey insisted on the importance of dietary diversity as an indicator for diet quality. She concluded by stating the continued relevance of multi-sectoral engagement for improving nutrition and how to create space for working with other sectors. Emphatically, our focus should be on influencing policy at country, regional and global level.

The Deputy Ambassador of the German Embassy, Mr Bernhard Abels re-echoed the commitment of his Governments dedication to improving nutrition in Africa. He stated that the Government of Germany had committed a total of EUR €200 million (USD \$260 million) additional funding for nutrition specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, between 2013 and 2020. He further stressed that Germany has strategically collaborated with FAO in the Africa Region to fund initiatives aimed at mainstreaming nutrition into agriculture policies, programmes and investment plans and to eliminate hunger on the continent by 2025 as stipulated in the 2014 Malabo Declaration implementation strategy and roadmap. His hope is that the current regional initiatives being funded by the German Government and implemented by FAO and partners, will meet expected outcomes for reducing malnutrition and achieving zero hunger under the imminent Sustainable Development Goals and the ICN-2 declaration and framework for action for Africa by 2025 and beyond. Mr. Abels concluded by wishing participants of the consultation very fruitful deliberation for the three-days.

His **Excellency Jomo Sundaram** in his remarks called for accountability. He stated that commitment is sufficient but not enough to meet the daunting challenge of addressing both under and over nutrition and highlighted the current global trends on the multiple burden of malnutrition. He enumerated on some of the priority areas of attention of the Rome Declaration and its framework recommendations and admonished FAO to support countries technically to implement these international recommendations. According to him, Nutrition priorities are directly or indirectly, embedded in all the SDGs and are fundamental to achieving all SDGs.

In his opening remarks, His **Excellency Bukar Tijani** was optimistic in referencing the first State of Food Insecurity in Africa (SOFI 2015), on the important progress that was realized over the past decades of the MDGs and the wake of the SDGs. He was satisfied that some seven countries in Africa have reached both hunger targets set by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the World Food Summit (WFS). He also re-affirmed FAO's commitment to countries to continue to provide them with technical assistance towards achieving food for all and eradicating hunger and malnutrition in Africa. In this regard, FAO should effectively work with countries to link agriculture to nutrition, social protection and gender. The ADG also drew the attention of colleagues on the multiple burdens of malnutrition with under-nutrition co-existing with over-nutrition and rising prevalence of overweight, obesity and diet related non-communicable diseases. According to him, agricultural and food systems must be designed to enhance availability and access to safe, nutritious and diverse foods while limiting unhealthy ultra-processed foods. He concluded his speech by stating that the multi-sectoral linkages among food security, nutrition, health, education, agriculture, social protection, gender, and sustainable markets must be promulgated with joint accountability mechanisms that are well coordinated. He then declared the consultation meeting open for deliberations.

Participants' introduction and expectations

The introduction of participants was very interactive with participants sharing their expectations with each other. This year, participants had a more diversified background than the first edition. Even though more participants had a nutrition background, there were colleagues with backgrounds in agriculture, livestock, social protection, gender, communication, etc.

Below were some participants' expectations:

- Be enlightened on what is going on in the region in the area of nutrition
- Understand better nutrition governance
- Receive practical tools to better integrate nutrition into agriculture and food security
- Receive guidance on how to strengthen country offices to implement FAO's strategy for nutrition
- Understand nutrition indicators in terms of evaluation of nutrition-sensitive agricultural impact and which indicators to use for nutrition early warning systems
- Learn from countries' experiences
- Come out with concrete recommendations on follow-up of post-ICN2, particularly at country level
- Build a network of nutritionists/nutrition focal points in Africa
- Have a better understanding in global nutrition strategy
- Understand how FAO coordinates internally and with partners at global, regional and national level in nutrition

Listening to participants' expectations of great interest were all aligned to the consultation agenda and the facilitation to make sure their concerns were taking into consideration during those three days.

After discussing the participant's expectation, Mawuli Sablah presented the consultation programme and objectives followed by Dr. Ag Bendeche presentation on multiple challenges and evolving food system in Africa.

Overview on multiple nutrition challenges and evolving food systems in Africa - Dr. Mohamed Ag Bendeck, Senior Nutrition Officer – FAO RAF

Dr. Ag Bendeck shared an overview on the food security and nutrition trend in SSA. He illustrated the high economic cost of malnutrition. The cost of treating overweight or obesity is equal to 4 – 9% of most countries' GDP. The second point developed was the progress towards the MDG 1c of halving the proportion of the population suffering from hunger. Achievements are quite heterogeneous among the four sub-regions in SSA. Only West Africa successfully reduced by 60% the proportion of its people suffering from hunger. Southern Africa is really close to reaching this target; Eastern Africa is making slow progress, while in Middle Africa the proportion of people suffering from hunger actually increased. Dr. Ag Bendeck also reiterated the challenge that the region is currently facing: the multiple burden of malnutrition, with the coexistence of undernourishment and calorie over-acquisition in the great majority of countries. To conclude, interventions, programmes and policies should embrace the complexity of the multiple burden of malnutrition, resources, should be mobilized to support nutrition sensitive agriculture interventions. Finally, FAO should work with countries to develop targets that are more ambitious.

Table 1: Countries with high prevalence and number of under - 5 stunted children in SSA, 2013

| Countries and SSA | Under-5 prevalence of stunting (%) | Number of under-5 with stunting | Share (%) among SSA stunted under-5 children |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Ethiopia | 42.7 | 6,084,293 | 10.9 |
| Nigeria | 36.4 | 11,118,844 | 20.0 |
| DRC | 42.6 | 5,072,253 | 9.1 |
| Total (Ethiopia, Nigeria and DRC) | - | 22,275,390 | 40.2 |
| Total of Sub-Saharan Africa | | 55,400,000 | |

Session 2: Setting the scene – FAO nutrition commitment at global and regional levels

The session was presided over by Joachim Laubhouet-Akadie, FAOR for Guinea-Bissau.

Prior to starting this session **His Excellency Jomo Sundaram**, reiterated a number of points on FAO's commitment and engagement to Nutrition within the broader UN-Global Nutrition Agenda. He emphasized the fact that, the United Nations Global Nutrition Agenda (UNGNA), endorsed and owned by the UN agencies provides a joint mandate on nutrition for FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO – to work together through united effort on global and national nutrition goals. He admonished colleagues to consciously, take action in supporting local efforts to make progress on nutrition governance, programme implementation, and the development of strong support systems to sustain progress towards achieving regional and national nutrition goals in Africa. This will require working with others through effective and sustainable multi-sectoral and collaborative strategies to address the multiple burden of malnutrition. He indicated the need for unity of purpose with flexibility in nutrition programming, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at all levels. He called for dialogue among stakeholders at regional and national level on how best to align actions and resources, in the context of a changing global development system and the need to work toward achievement of the nutrition priorities in the SDGs with efficient use of resources, less duplication of effort and greater synergy among nutrition stakeholders. There is an urgency to catalyze actions, as a follow up on ICN-2 to achieve optimal nutrition in the world. Through normative and operational activities at global, regional and country levels, FAO should support collective effort by countries in their advocacy, governance and implementation efforts to prevent and rapidly reduce all forms of malnutrition. The scaling up of nutrition should leverage the best available technical assistance at global, regional, and country level.

The session then continued with three presentations that introduced the follow-up plans for the regional and global initiatives; Post ICN-2, Malabo Declaration implementation strategy and roadmap as well as the CAADP Nutrition Initiative. The objective was to reinforce FAO's Nutrition Officers understanding on global and regional initiatives.

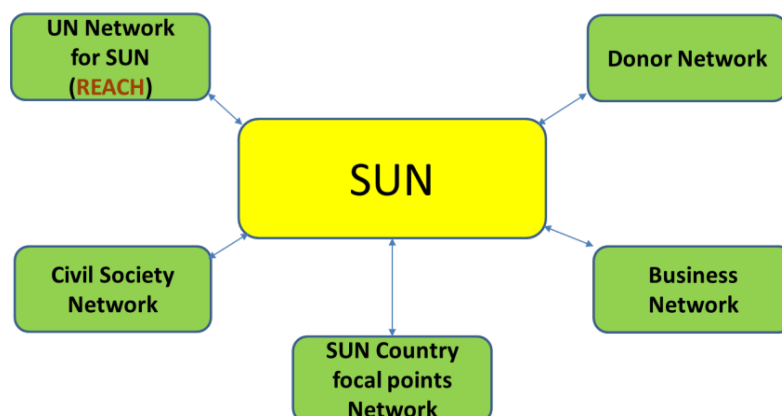
FAO corporate Nutrition Strategy and UN Nutrition Governance Update - Anna Lartey, ESN Director – ESN HQ

Prof. Anna Lartey in her concise but comprehensive presentation gave an overview and explanation of FAO's corporate Nutrition Strategy and UN Nutrition Governance at global level. To avoid contradictory messages at country level on all the nutrition initiatives, a request was made to have a clear communication about ICN-2, SUN, Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC), UN NETWORK for SUN and UNGNA and to improve coordination among UN agencies at all level. Prof. Lartey reassured colleagues that, a communication strategy would be developed and shared with countries by September 2015. She seized the opportunity to encourage Nutrition Experts in the region to disseminate the Rome Declaration and Framework of Action as well as other global strategies at national level. Key points of her presentation are summarized below:

UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN): established in 1977; to promote cooperation among the UN agencies and partner organizations in support of community, national, regional and international efforts to end malnutrition in all its forms". Current members of the UNSCN include: FAO, WHO, UNICEF, WFP, IFAD, International Atomic Energy Commission (IAEA) and Biodiversity.

Scaling-Up Nutrition:

Figure 1 : Scaling Up Nutrition Movement



Zero Hunger Challenge: The UN Secretary-General encourages all partners to scale up their efforts and turn the vision of an end to hunger into reality. Elements for achieving zero hunger: zero stunted children less than 2 years, 100% access to adequate food all year round, all food system are sustainable, 100% increase in smallholder productivity and income and zero loss or waste of food.

Figure 2 : Zero Hunger Challenge



Sustainable Development Goals: The goal 2 (end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture) is linking food system, nutrition and sustainable agriculture under the same goal. It indicates food-based approach to nutrition.

The UN Global Nutrition Agenda: The UNGNA is a guiding framework for UN actions in response to global and country nutrition goals. It clarifies the role of the UN System in response to the changing global nutrition policy landscape, given policy commitment, agency mandates, country expectations and needs. It also provides guidance to UN teams; it is the vision of the UN shared agenda for nutrition.

Global Nutrition Agenda Post ICN-2 and SDGs: Priorities for Africa – Leslie Amoroso, Programme Officer – ESN HQ

The ICN-2 was jointly organized by FAO and WHO, it brought together over 2200 participants including eminent personalities, 162 Member States of FAO and WHO, one Associated Member, European Union, three Observers, Accredited Observers, Parliamentary representatives, Opinion leaders, Researchers and Development Experts. The major outcome documents of the ICN-2 are the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action. The Rome Declaration on Nutrition is a political statement of 10 commitments for more effective and coordinated action to improve nutrition.

The ICN-2 ten commitments:

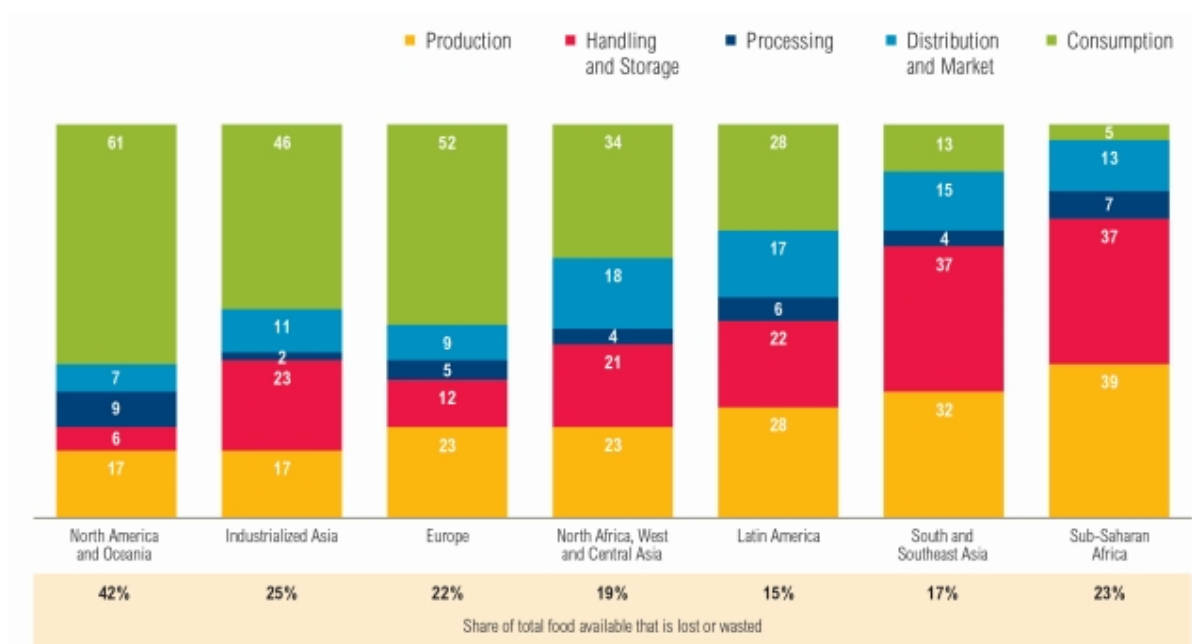
- 1) Eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition
- 2) Increase investments
- 3) Enhance sustainable food systems
- 4) Raise the profile of nutrition
- 5) Strengthen human and institutional capacities
- 6) Strengthen and facilitate, contributions and action by all stakeholders
- 7) Ensure healthy diets throughout the life course
- 8) Create enabling environment for making informed choices
- 9) Implement commitments through Framework for Action
- 10) Integrate vision and commitments into post-2015 agenda

The Framework for Action is a voluntary technical guide of 60 recommendations for the implementation of the political commitments. The recommendations cover the following themes: enabling environment, sustainable food systems for healthy diets, nutrition-enhancing investment and trade, Nutrition Education and Information, social protection, strong and resilient health systems, water sanitation and hygiene, food safety and accountability.

Roll Out of Nutrition Strategy: FAO RAF commitments and implementation approach - Mohamed Ag Bendeck, Senior Nutrition Officer - FAO RAF

Dr. Ag Bendeck started his presentation by showing how FAO RAF Nutrition priorities contribute to FAO Strategic Framework. FAO Africa Regional action in nutrition are based on four principles: (1) support food systems to be nutrition-sensitive or “nutrition friendly”, (2) focus and create impact at country level, (3) work in partnership and (4) work multi sectorally. He then presented the context of the Malabo Declaration and the Malabo commitments and emphasized the opportunities for improving nutrition through the food and agriculture system. The presentation sensitized colleagues on the importance of food loss and food waste in SSA. According to the World Resource Institute, respectively 39% and 37% of food is lost or wasted during the production and the handling and storage stage in the region as shown in the figure 3 below.

Figure 3: Food lost or wasted by region and stage in food chain



He provided the linkages between RAF nutrition implementation approaches to FAO major areas of work (MAW). In conclusion, the complexity of the food environment is still evolving. There is the need to ensure the coherence of RAF regional nutrition programming with:

- FAO planning cycle (SO1&5, RI1&3, CPF);
- Regional and sub-regional initiatives (Malabo Declaration, ECOWAS ZHI, SADC Knowledge and Monitoring Platforme, IGAD, Resilience approaches, etc.);
- Global initiatives, (SUN, REACH, ICN-2, Nutrition for Growth, SDGs, UNGNA CFS).

There is also the need to assist countries to capitalize all these opportunities of improving on their food systems for better nutrition through policy dialogues, formulation and implementation and monitoring.

FAO-NEPAD Partnership on mainstreaming nutrition in CAADP - Mawuli Sablah, Chief Technical Advisor CAADP Nutrition Initiative – FAO RAF

This presentation provided background of FAO's partnership with NEPAD to mainstream nutrition into the CAADP process; ensuring nutrition is mainstreamed into programmes, policies and agricultural investment plans taking into account social protection dimensions.

Since January 2007, 51 countries actively engaged in the CAADP process, 40 countries have signed their compacts and 34 countries have developed their NAFSIPs. The review of the CAADP investment plans realized in 2011 concluded that nutrition was not sufficiently addressed. Therefore, in 2011 FAO and NEPAD formally collaborated (through Letters of Agreement) to improve the integration of nutrition into CAADP process. One of the main outcomes of this CAADP Agriculture – Nutrition capacity development initiative was the organization of three sub-regional workshops (one for Western Africa in 2011, the second for Central and Eastern Africa early 2013 and the third for Southern Africa in November 2013) to strengthen capacities of national and regional stakeholders involved in food and nutrition security. Currently FAO is implementing a project funded by the German Cooperation to support countries in mainstreaming nutrition into their CAADP process.

This presentation concluded the second session of the consultation meeting. The Box 1 below highlights some key issues discussed during the plenary contributions to this session.

Box 1 : Session 2 discussion points

- Need to adapt ICN2 recommendations to countries' context
- The role of the FAO national Nutrition Focal Points should be clarified and assistance should be given to them in their daily work
- Internal coordination (within FAO) should be improved to ensure nutrition is actually mainstreamed in FAO's work
- Resources (both financial and human) should be in line with the ambition of FAO to be a co-leader in nutrition
- There is some disconnection between FAO's role in nutrition at global level and the reality at country level
- Need to disseminate FAO's vision and strategy for nutrition, particularly at country level
- Better communicate with countries/sub-regions/regions on the existing nutrition initiatives

Session 3: FAO's work at sub-regional level (with RECs)

The session was presided over by Dr. Tobias Takavarasha, FAOR for South Africa.

The third session was mainly conducted by sub regional Nutrition Officers. The objective was to update colleagues on the sub regional nutrition policies and programming partnerships with REC's and to discuss what is being done in nutrition policies and programming at sub regional level.

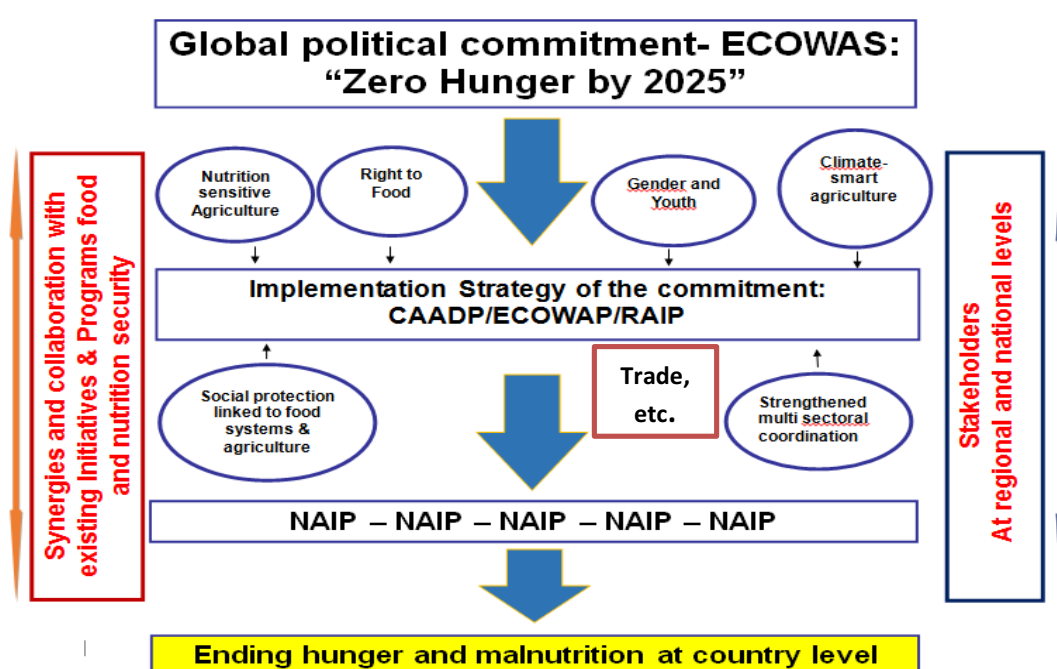
West Africa (WAT) Regional Nutrition Policies and Programme Priorities and the ECOWAS Hunger Free Initiative in Partnership with ECOWAS – RAAF/WAHO and UEMOA – Adama Taoko, Chief Technical Advisor and Richemont Seki, Nutrition Consultant – FAO RAF

The West Africa team started the session with a presentation on West Africa regional nutrition policies and program priorities and the ECOWAS Hunger Free Initiative; which is being jointly implemented jointly with the ECOWAS Commission and the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) and the West Africa Health Organization (WAHO). The FAO Regional Nutrition Policy Programmes priorities in West Africa, focus on six key actions:

- supporting West Africa Regional bodies, institutions and ECOWAS member countries;
- supporting the integration of nutrition into regional food and agricultural policies (ECOWAP, PAU);
- reinforce capacity on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, food systems and value chains;
- coordinating Food Security and Nutrition;
- supporting regional and country food and nutrition security systems; and
- developing resource mobilization.

The ECOWAS ZHI is a high-level engagement to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in ECOWAS region by 2025. The initiative aims at strengthening the capacity of ECOWAS governments and non-state partners for a stronger stakeholder's engagement, an amplified political commitment and an enhanced multi-sector and multi actor collaboration. The ECOWAS West Agriculture Policy (ECOWAP) is a key milestone towards 2025 goal. The figure 4 illustrates the framework of the ECOWAS ZHI.

Figure 4: Conceptual framework of the West Africa ZHI



Central Africa (SFC) Regional Nutrition Policies and Programme Priorities in Partnership with ECCAS - Aissa Mamadou Taibou, Nutrition Officer - SFC

Situation analyses are being conducted at sub regional and at country level. At sub regional level, the situation analysis is currently ongoing with the objective to see where the sub-region stands in term of CAADP Nutrition implementation, SUN movement, REACH countries and national food and nutrition security policies (NAFSIP, CAADP, IYCF, etc.). At country level, the objective of the situation analysis was to have a better understanding of the existing strategic frameworks to fight hunger, to map potential stakeholders involved in FSN and to identify opportunities for multi-sectoral interventions and how the ECCAS could better support the countries. The conclusion part of the situation analysis revealed that countries need support to elaborate, review, adopt and implement food and nutrition security policies and national investment plans. The major challenges faced by countries are the lack of human resources. Indeed, there are limited numbers of nutritionist in the eight countries covered by SFC to support the new SFC Nutrition Officer. Some countries also lack nutrition donors with poor government involvement, little or no coordination, and M&E interventions are sometimes missing. Some of the next steps include the organization of a sub-regional workshop, support to SFC countries to elaborate FSN policy, assistance to countries to implement their food and nutrition security action plan, mobilization of financial resources and support on the implementation of multi-sectoral platforms in collaboration with Ministry of Health and other partners.

Southern Africa (SFS) Regional Nutrition Policies and Programme Priorities in Partnership with SADC and COMESA - Mercy Chikoko, Nutrition Officer - SFS

There are 16 countries in the SFS sub-region with only one sub-regional Nutrition Officer (considered a super-human) for the sub region with limited time. Given the human resource and time constraints the focus is on the sub regional interventions that would make the most impact and that would ensure sustainability and self-driven. SFS will leverage on the global and regional momentum created on nutrition as well as the synergy created through partnerships within the agriculture sector and other sectors such as health, social protection, education, water and sanitation. Currently Namibia, Malawi, South Africa and Seychelles are revising their policy or country implementation plans. For instance, in Namibia, FAO has been requested to provide technical support for a new nutrition policy and food fortification. NEPAD also requested FAO's support to implement the knowledge management platform under CAADP. The sub-Regional Nutrition Officer encouraged colleagues to share any other processes that are ongoing in the sub region since she has just joined FAO. She concluded by emphasizing on the importance of food-based approach to achieve nutritional outcomes.

The two sub-sequent presentations were on nutrition in emergency in the Sahel region and in the Horn of Africa. Christophe Breyne introduced the Regional, Resilience, Emergency and Rehabilitation Office for West Africa (REOWA) and the ECHO Food and Nutrition Security project and Angela Kimani presented Nutrition and resilience through Farmer Field Schools in the Horn of Africa.

Nutrition in Emergency and Food Security Resilience in the Sahel - Christophe Breyne, Food Security and Nutrition Expert - REOWA

The first part of the presentation was dedicated, to REOWA, which was established in 2006 in Dakar, Senegal, and works closely with the FAO regional office for Africa to provide liaison and coordination between FAO and regional humanitarian actors based in Dakar (UN, OCHA, NGOs, donors, Red Cross movement, etc.).

REOWA has four strategic areas of intervention: a) enhanced coordination at the regional level; b) in-depth food security analysis to support decision making and better meet needs; c) promoting resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRR/DRM) and d) Implementing projects to protect, restore and improve livelihoods and food security. The second part was about the ECHO project on Food Security and Nutrition.

The project aimed at reinforcing capacity to improve food security and nutrition programmes in emergency and in post – emergency in the Sahel region and in the Horn of Africa, through better integration of nutrition, improving seed security studies and strengthening accountability. The main expected outcome is to improve ability of humanitarian organizations to better integrate nutrition into food security interventions throughout the programme cycle. Some achieved results in the Sahel region include; seven training workshops in five countries, mapping of existing tools and elaboration of online training module and 401 humanitarian actors trained and equipped. There is a need to continue having training workshops through the FAOR. There is also the additional need to develop more specific training modules on fishery, cash transfer, social protection and gender development and communication strategy (newsletter).

Nutrition and Resilience through Field Schools in the Horn/Eastern Africa - Angela Kimani,
Nutrition Officer for REOA - Kenya

According to the presenter, Farmer Field School “is not primarily about technology, but about the development of people”. Field Schools are important because they serve as extension methodology and a platform for disseminating information. Moreover, the agenda of field school is very participatory and the methodology allows, for multiple needs of different gender groups to be addressed. Some principles of the Field School are based on the fact that: it requires a facilitator and not a teacher, the field becomes the classroom, the learning is focused on principles rather than technologies (farmers and pastoralist learn the basic science through practical exercises and experiments) and it might take long comparative experiments. In most cases, the farmers were easily able to identify by themselves the cause and effects of poor health and malnutrition. FFLS generally provides an excellent entry point and platform for nutrition knowledge and skills in a culturally appropriate manner. Kitchen gardening (when part of the FFS/FFLS) and practical nutrition education are valuable means that contributes to improvement in food consumption patterns, as well as income generation at the household level. The main gaps identified are the limited nutrition curriculum for use in FFLS, the inadequate facilitation on food preservation and storage, the limited emphasize on fruit production and the limited monitoring and evaluation of food consumption indicators and health and childcare practices indicators. Field Schools are platforms that could be used for developmental issue including nutrition sensitization.

Box 2 : Session 3 discussion points

- Need to strengthen coordination between sub regions
- Need to better communicate with countries on the existing initiatives / projects / programmes for which they are geographically targeted

Poster session

This session was a participatory and interactive outside activity. Colleagues from Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Congo Brazzaville, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone exposed their posters with their country experiences on integrated nutrition, food security and social protection programme. Other participants gathered around the posters they were more interested in knowing about and started the discussions. The session lasted for 40 minutes and was the last activity of the day. The table 1 summarizes the topics covered. For more information, please refer to the Book of Abstracts.

Table 2 : List of posters

| What | Author | Country |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Projet de promotion de jardins scolaires dans les écoles a cantines (TCP/BEN/3401) | Jean Adanguidi | Benin |
| Elevage, Moyens d'existence et Nutrition : Expérience du Programme pilote de renforcement de la résilience des ménages vulnérables au Sahel | Prosper Sawadogo | Burkina-Faso |
| Lutte contre la malnutrition chronique dans le district sanitaire de Kiremba en province de Ngozi à travers la mise en place des Kitchen gardens | Isidore Sindabarira | Burundi |
| The contribution of FAO Chad to improve governance | Marianne Tinlot | Chad |
| Intégration des synergies des acteurs sociaux dans la lutte contre la malnutrition | Marius Saya-Maya | Congo Brazzaville |
| Programme de cash transfert et de distribution de chèvres pour appuyer les ménages victimes de crises alimentaires au Gorgol | Fatimata Toure | Mauritania |
| Promotion d'une agriculture saine et durable dans 4 grandes zones agro écologiques du Sénégal : Niayes, Vallée du Fleuve Sénégal, Zone Cotonnière et Bassin Arachidier | Komlan Kwadjode | Senegal |
| The development of Food Based Dietary Guidelines for Sierra Leone | Mariama Bah | Sierra Leone |

Session 4: Nutrition-sensitive agriculture / cross cutting themes

James Tefft opened and presided over the fourth session with a brief introduction.

The second day started with group work discussion on at least three things on what was learnt the previous day that could be used in one's work after the consultation meeting. Colleagues exchanged for 30 minutes before starting the session 4 on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and cross cutting themes. The objective of the session was to share with colleagues'; key recommendations and guidance for programme formulation and nutrition-sensitive interventions. The session was presided over by James Tefft, Senior Policy Officer at FAO – RAF.

Improving nutrition through agriculture and food systems: Key Recommendations and programming guidance - Charlotte Dufour, Nutrition Officer – ESN HQ

The presentation focused on programming guidance and resources available on how to mainstream nutrition in FAO programmes and how to support government. These resources are in the form of guidelines, flyers, tool kits and e-learning materials. Some of the resources offer guidance on how various aspects of the food production system, could be made nutrition-sensitive. These resources also included an M&E tool with key relevant nutrition indicators as well as guidance and resources available for each indicator. Most of the tools are available in publications and on FAO website and some are yet to be finalized.

Integrating and monitoring nutrition indicators in food security information systems and linking food security and nutrition with agricultural information systems in Africa - Giorgia Fiorella Nicolò, Nutrition Consultant – FAO RAF

The presenter shared on why food and nutrition security information systems, are needed and the underlying pillars of food and nutrition security with emphasis on the fourth pillar, which has direct implications on nutrition, as it relates to nutrient adequacy of the diet, individual heterogeneities as well as non-food elements. Most surveys conducted do not look at individual food consumption; hence, the emphasis in FAO is on individual food consumption as well as household access to food in order to measure diet quality and food consumption at individual level. The following qualitative indicators were developed (1) Minimum Dietary Diversity –Women (MDD-W), (2) Minimum Dietary Diversity – Young Children and (3) Individual Dietary Diversity Score (IDDS). Measuring diet quality using these indicators is useful and proxy to nutrient intake. For example, research evidence has shown that increasing Woman's Dietary Diversity Score is associated with the probability of adequacy of micronutrients.

Effective Nutrition Education in Action for Francophone Africa (ENAF) - Yvette Fautsch, Nutrition Officer – ESN HQ

The ENAF project (*Le projet ENACT en Afrique francophone*) capitalizes on the work carried out for the ENACT project (for English speaking countries) by translating, piloting, adapting and embedding the translated ENACT materials in Francophone universities for selected countries; Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroun and Niger. The piloting of the translated course will start in September 2015. This course emphasizes on independent learning and on experience and practice where students are actively engaged at all stages and organize their own learning and practice with no text books, essay assignments or lecture notes. The course content covers the basic principles and practice of nutrition education, including designing and implementing small nutrition education interventions. The face-to-face version is currently being finalized, and will be ready for distribution and use in CD-ROM in August 2015; while the online version is currently being developed.

Integrating nutrition education into Agricultural Extension System Curricular - Laouratou Dia, Nutrition Consultant – FAO RAF

FAO is conducting a mapping exercise of on-going initiatives and FAO projects working to integrate nutrition more specifically nutrition education into agriculture extension services (AES) such as farmer field schools, pastoral field schools, etc. The objectives of the mapping are to identify best practices, lessons learnt, and gaps. The project is in its early stages of implementation such as conducting literature review on existing resources and on-going initiative to incorporate Nutrition Education into AES. Field missions are planned to explore the approach, key features and functioning of AES to further identify key entry points for nutrition education. This will then allow formulating recommendations for integrating nutrition into agriculture extension services and develop courses and modules to be offered in Universities with Agriculture extension programme. There was a request put forward to nutrition colleagues to share existing resources.

Box 3 : Session 4.a. Discussion points

Information system:

- Dietary Diversity does not measure the quantity of food, but just the variety in the number of food groups.
- The Dietary Diversity tool that uses 10 food groups is used globally by FAO and partners.
- The 10-food group cut off was developed through a consensus; it was found that 10 food groups could cover most foods and could be optimal to meet nutrient requirements.
- An operational manual on using the tool is being developed and the first draft will be out by September 2015 or end of the year.
- WDD or CDD measures individual consumption and not just food that enters the household.
- The need to have baseline indicators to facilitate monitoring the performance at the start and end of project (comparability at both baseline and end-line)
- The need to compile nutrition data on indicators in general and integrating the right indicators.
- The need for a strong recommendation for W DDS in all baseline surveys in national information systems
- Have guidelines to support countries to domesticate the CAADP M& E system and collect information on M& E

Nutrition Education:

- ENAF was designed to lessen the burden of teachers and students, therefore integrating ENAF to schools won't overload their curricula.
- Country selection was based on set criteria.
- The need to know the people that were already trained that could be available as resource persons to train others was emphasized

Food commodities value chain and impact on nutrition - Moussa Djagoudi, Agribusiness Officer and Regional Project Coordinator – FAO RAF

This presentation sought to create the link between food value chains and impact on nutrition and the private sector could contribute to doing responsible food business that will address the multiple burden of malnutrition. Value chain development approach, could be incorporated in most FAO projects, including the Technical Cooperation Projects (TCPs) as it will raise income of the vulnerable groups. Monitoring and evaluation on how nutrition, has been integrated into value chains is key.

Food safety, bio fortification and evolving trends in multiple burdens of malnutrition/NCDs and food system regulation - Jean Kamanzi, Food Safety and Quality Officer - SFS

The presentation provided a background of the critical developments on food safety issues. Clarity was also provided on issues regarding hazards (physical, chemical and biological) and risks, which need to be foreseen and calculated through 'risk' analysis during post-harvest or processing of food, such as the handling, preparation and storing food in a way that prevents harm to people. Issues related to production and transformation such as post-harvest techniques are important for preserving nutrient in food, food quality and reduce losses as 1/3 of food production is wasted. Additionally, entry points need to be identified for improving nutritional quality, transformation of nutritious products to ensure nutrient bioavailability. Ultimately, food safety, could be prioritized, as a prerequisite of any nutrition intervention, since food should have both safety and nutritional value. Additional specific issues relating to the African continent are the lack of reliable and timely data, as per the case of mycotoxins and aflatoxins. There are no specific indications provided on the use of chemicals by farmers and the sensitization on the risk of using these chemicals to people's health.

Gender empowerment in nutrition sensitive agricultural planning - Tacko Ndiaye, Senior Gender Officer and Sophie Tatria, Nutrition Officer – FAO Ghana Office

This year, 2015 is the Africa year of gender and women empowerment. Gender and nutrition are identical twins and are currently attracting lot of attention and funding opportunities. It is recognized that gender inequality and hunger (measure through the global hunger index and the gender gap index) are very highly associated or correlate positively. Gender inequality, which also translates into excessive burden of work on women and is measured by the time allocation indicator, and stunting are also strongly associated. Actually, time allocation of Ghanaian women is mostly devoted to non-paid work. The key take-home messages include; gender inequities are major social determinants of health and nutrition outcomes. Targeting women alone is not effective as their environment influences women, including men. Incorporate gender analysis into nutrition project design. Promote balanced distribution of household duties between women and men. Strengthen FAO resources on gender and nutrition.

Box 4 : Session 4.b. discussion points

- The importance of consumer awareness as the primary traction force for improving and ensuring food safety.
- Governments need to set specific criteria for standards on food safety/quality and enforce them.
- Integrated Pests Management (IPM) projects do not include a food safety component and control over pesticides. In the long run, people might be affected by such programme to which they have participated.
- WASH component is missing from the discussion and should be given more importance.
- Need for evidence based linkages between nutrition and WASH.
- FAO Burundi is implementing a project to combat chronic malnutrition through the implementation of Kitchen Gardens. In this regard, work should be conducted to ensure that phyto-sanitary products do not become harmful to beneficiaries and the opportunity cost of switching to organic agriculture.

Food consumption survey/dietary assessment updates - Catherine Leclercq, Nutrition Officer – ESN HQ (Video conference)

FAO and WHO are now developing a pilot Global Individual Food consumption data Tool (FAO/WHO GIFT) including two datasets from Africa. In Africa as in many other regions, food and agriculture policies and programmes are mainly, informed by food availability data collected at national or household level. Individual food consumption data, which takes into account age and gender dimensions should be, considered in the decision process. The Nutrition Division of FAO, in partnership with the Statistics Division and the Food Safety and Quality Unit, the World Health Organization and other international partners, are building a Global Individual Food consumption data Tool (FAO/WHO GIFT). The pilot tool is currently, being developed, with the use of four datasets, to be tested in two African countries. The ultimate goal is to collect, harmonize and disseminate data available at national and sub-national level through an FAO hosted web-platform. This platform aims to facilitate access to the micro-data and to compute food-based indicators (e.g. dietary intake of vitamin A and its main food sources by age and sex). Countries are encouraged to share all the information available on this subject. They will, be contacted, within the next months to conduct a needs assessment and analysis in terms of data availability and mapping.

Food Composition Tables (FCT) and development on Afrofoods / Infoods - Ruth Charrondiere, Nutrition Officer, ESN HQ

FAO is the lead agency working on food composition. However, data are missing. The FCT are crucial tools for food and nutrition security decisions in terms of promotion of food based approach and nutrition education as well as for trade. Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programmes and projects as well as healthy diets need to be evidence based. RAF has provided support on the development of AFROFOODS. Collaborations need to be enhanced between FAO and the academia for the collection to analysis of data, as information has to be reliable, and understanding the uses of food composition should be incorporated into the University curricula. Next steps will include the update of the West Africa Food composition table as well as the development of Kenya and Malawi Food Composition Tables. Training is also being planned for September in Morocco in 2016.

Panel discussion on nutrition and country programming framework and post-Malabo follow-up – (Joachim Laubhouet-Akadie, Tobias Takavarasha, Aristide Ongone Obame, Adama Taoko)

This panel discussion was on the Post-Malabo, implementation strategy and roadmap as well as how to engage countries. It assessed appraisal of country programming framework implementation. Specifically, assessed how nutrition is being integrated into the CAADP process/appraisal and the second phase of CAADP implementation, including coordination mechanisms, initiatives and support structures.

South Africa: Food insecurity still affects a huge proportion of the country population. Coordination of capacity for implementation needs to be strengthened as well as the support required from FAO. The trend in overweight/obesity and diet related non-communicable disease is also worsening. The government has developed an implementation plan for the food security and nutrition policy with significant support provided by FAO.

Guinea Bissau started the formulation of its new CPF in 2013, seizing the opportunity to align it to the new strategic framework. At the time, FAO was the only UN agency present in the country. A proposal was made on the harmonization of the terminology when dealing with “food security and nutrition” or “food and nutrition security” in the different official languages. 99 percent of food production of Guinea Bissau is based on small scale mono cropping agriculture and people still rely on barter within communities. Food insecurity and chronic malnutrition are widespread and nutrition has finally become a priority area for the country. Being a multi-actor, multi-sectoral issue, a holistic and multidimensional approach needs to be applied. New guidelines for CPF have to be amended, as they currently do not include nutrition.

Burkina Faso is going through an evolution in nutrition sensitive agriculture. There was no nutrition officer in Burkina Faso, which did not make the voice of FAO credible and heard by partners and donors. Currently capacity on nutrition has been strengthened. FAO partners with the other UN agencies in project implementation in the Sahel and opportunities for collaboration can further be strengthened. Socio-political institutional aspects of the context need to be considered, when formulating programmes in partnership. There is a strong need for evidence base and indicators to show the impact of agriculture interventions on nutrition, especially regarding home and school gardens. Currently, there are two programmes, that specifically, include nutrition into their activities, respectively funded by the EU and the Swiss cooperation. A request will be addressed to the government to extend the current CPF until 2016.

Box 5 : Session 4.c. discussion points

- Coherence and linkages between Country level programming and programming at regional and global level
- Political commitment
- Nuances of terminology level: food and nutrition security VS Food security and nutrition. Need to clarify translation into the different UN languages
- Socio-political and institutional aspects of formulating programmes when partnering with agencies
- Human and financial resources for nutrition could be mobilized by FAO

Parallel Session 5.1: Nutrition Information System Strengthening

The session was presided over by Nina Dodd, Nutrition Technical Manager for FAO Somalia

In order to make the consultation meeting more interactive and participatory, the facilitators decided to make some changes and divided the session 5 into two parallel sessions. The first session was on nutrition information system and the second one on social protection, Purchase from Africans for Africa and School Nutrition. Colleagues attended the session they had more interest in and came back for feedback and exchange on the entire session.

Introduction to NIS-Key components of a Food Security and Nutrition Information System -

Nina Dodd, Nutrition Technical Manager – FAO Somalia

The discussion dealt with understanding the functioning and sustainability of the food and nutrition security, information system that has been put in place in Somalia. The system cannot be sustainable without donor's contribution. The cost of a single survey is around 1 million USD and surveys take place every 6 months which also hinders duplication in other countries. Additionally, data collection is not institutionalized due to the limited institutional capacity which poses serious problems of ownership and sustainability in the future. Following its adherence to the SUN movement, the Somali government is now increasingly interested in relying on evidence base information to meet with its commitments and also interested in creating its own capacity. Despite the cost, similar systems have been put in place in Yemen and Sudan but their functioning in the long run is now questioned, due to their high financial burden.

Country example of strengthening nutrition information system-Niger - Solange Heise, Food Security and Nutrition Officer - Niger

The second presentation dealt with the results of the WDDS data collection in Niger. It explained that collaboration with all UN agencies took place from the very beginning of the design phase. FAO has been the major coordination agency of the survey on the ground but under the REACH umbrella. The next phase will be the organization of a national workshop for validating the data collected. The Food Security Vulnerability Survey, funded by WFP, is conducted every year in June; while data are made available and published in November. Regarding the integration of nutrition indicators into the *Cadre Harmonisé*, they are not collected at the same geographical level and time (regional versus local level) as the others indicators; this represents a limitation on advocacy for nutrition interventions. UNICEF has included the SMART survey into the National Food Security Surveys. Regarding data collection, however, there are still fragmentation issues which need to be properly addressed.

The creation of a knowledge sharing platform on FSN in Southern Africa: Opportunities and challenges - Mercy Chikoko, Nutrition Officer SFS

The last presentation focused on the establishment and implementation of the regional knowledge-sharing platform in Southern Africa. The Regional Nutrition Officer explained that NEPAD is currently holding consultations with the countries in order to perform the selection of the pilot districts where the system will be piloted and added that an expert is being recruited to take care of the design of the platform. Knowledge sharing without follow-up is not useful. Activities of capacity development, in terms of the e learning, are put in place to be able to apply the knowledge. The plat-forms are not exclusively focusing on nutrition but also a collection of other sectors' policies, programmes and good practices. There are institutional mechanisms in place to make it function. Further preoccupations were raised regarding the role of FAO within REACH which is not clear and some of the officers feel REACH as a separate entity compared to their agency work. It was explained that there are regular skype calls within all the REACH partners and this consultation meeting might be a good opportunity to receive clarification from the management and suggestions on how to improve partnership with REACH colleagues at country level.

Parallel Session 5.2: Social protection and purchase from Africa for Africa (PAA) / School Nutrition

This session was presided over by Aristide Ongone Obame.

Presentations in this parallel session were focusing on broad strategies, technical aspects and opportunities for supporting school nutrition programmes and actual implementation experiences from the countries.

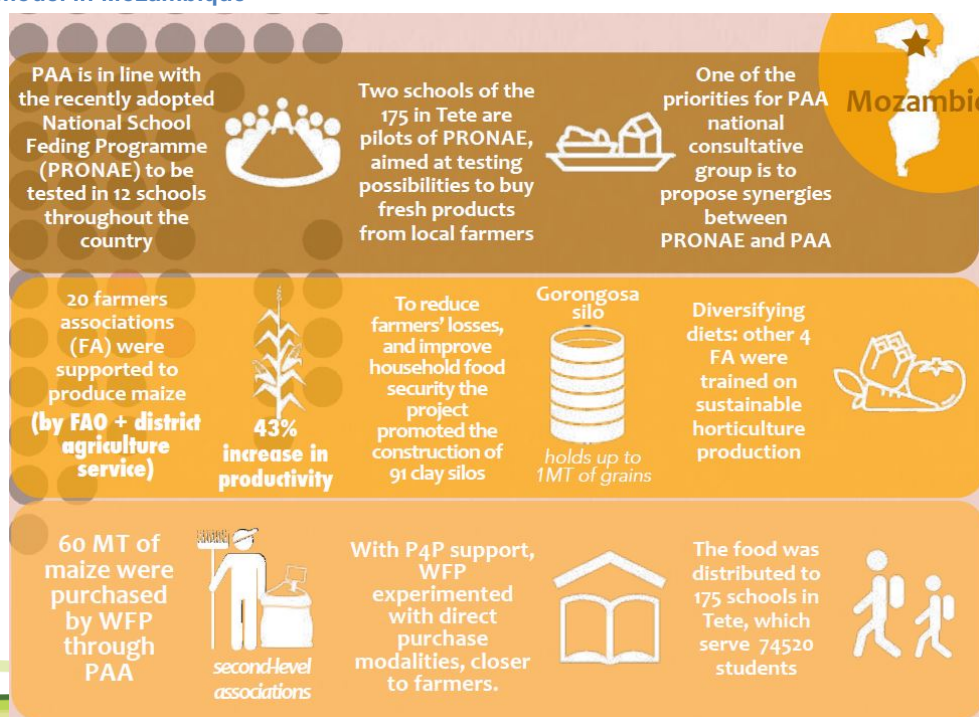
Linking social protection through agriculture for improving Nutrition; potential synergies and impacts - Al-Hassan Cissé, Social Protection Programme Coordinator – FAO RAF

Social protection is a key tool to tackle malnutrition since it addresses the underlying causes: access to food, access to care for children and women and access to health service and healthy environment. Evidences show that when households use social protection measures to invest in livelihoods it has an indirect impact on the nutrition status of the households as illustrated by the case of Zambia and Malawi. In order to improve collaboration and synergy among stakeholders involved in food security and nutrition at country level, there is an urgent need to develop capacity on nutrition-sensitive social protection. Some countries and regional communities are already integrating social protection as a key component of their policies, as it is the case for ECOWAP, Nigeria, Ghana, Burkina Faso and Togo. We should seize this momentum to continue the efforts in this direction.

Purchase from Africans for Africa (PAA) - promoting food and nutrition security and income generation - Lorena Braz, PAA Coordinator - FAO RAF

PAA is an Institutional Food Procurement Programmes that has the potential to offer close-to-home and long term formal markets for smallholders who have difficulties in meeting procurement standards. Institutional buyers typically refer to schools, food reserves, hospitals and food aid organizations. PAA was jointly implemented from 2012 to 2015 by FAO and WFP in five African countries: Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal. The programme provides training and organizes farmer associations so that the small-scale farmers are able to access all markets, including better delivery to the school feeding programme. They are also able to access credit and other training programmes due to the partnerships with government, private sector and other relevant partners. The figure below illustrates the implementation of PAA in Mozambique. To know more on PAA, visit the following website: paa-africa.org

Figure 5 : PAA model in Mozambique

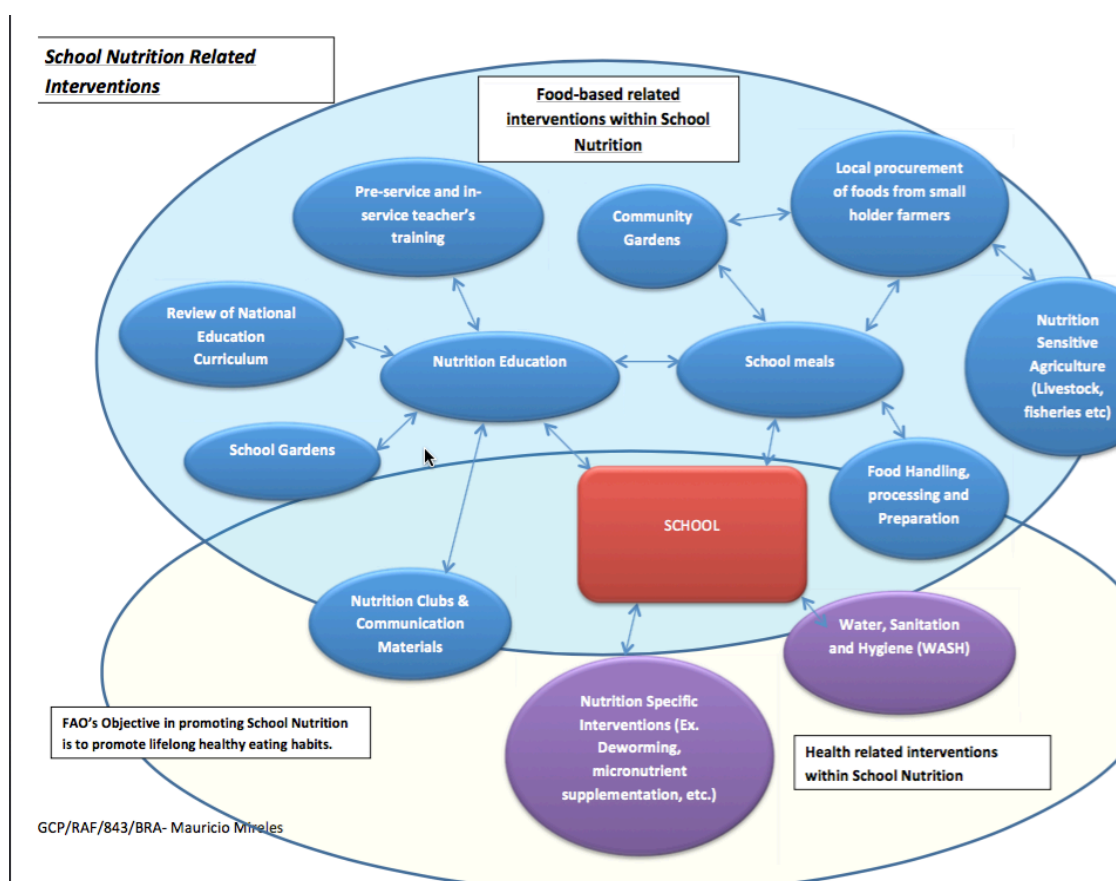


School Nutrition and South-South Corporation on School Feeding Programmes in Africa -

Mauricio Mireles, Regional Project Coordinator – FAO RAF

Child nutrition is an essential element to improve not only the health and well-being of children around the world, but also the social and economic development of communities and countries. Schools play a central role in this process, providing the knowledge that new generations will require in order to become active members of society. The two well-known nutrition related action at schools are: the School Feeding Programme (SFP) and the Home-Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSF). The core component of FAO School Nutrition programmes are school meals, nutrition education, school gardens and nutrition and health supporting environment. The experiences of school nutrition in Brazil, Malawi and Sao and Principe were shared. Two main points came out as lessons learned from the experience; the fact that South-South Cooperation promotes greater ownership from “partner” countries due to the interest in receiving not only technical support but also advice based on related experience, and the fact that most countries in the context of Africa have partnerships for the implementation of school meals. However, greater efforts are needed in order to support a transition towards national ownership. The figure below illustrates the school nutrition interventions.

Figure 6 : School nutrition related interventions



Integrated school nutrition approach at national level – Luciano Fonseca, Assistant FAOR – Cape Verde

In Cape Verde School Nutrition Programmes exist since 1979 through WFP funding; 100% of public kindergarten and primary schools have a school canteen programme. In 2010, WFP gradually withdrew itself, and the government started to fund the school canteen and partners are only supporting. The school nutrition programme in Cape Verde is a joint programme between FAO, WFP, WHO and UNICEF. FAO is in charge of the multi sectoral coordination and support the intervention by providing locally accepted inputs and nutrition education to the schools. The biggest challenge that Cape Verde is facing on this issue is to develop institutional capacity and national structures, strengthen multi-sectorial coordination mechanism and reinforce M&E mechanism.

Box 6 : Session 5.2 points of discussion

PAA:

- Sustainability of the purchasing system in PAA programmes should be ensured for the advantage of small holder farmers.
- Clarification of the role of FAO in school feeding/nutrition programmes - Production only and linkage to WFP feeding programme?

School Nutrition Programmes:

- Need for continuous promotion of practical nutrition education training in schools vis-a-vis food handouts (it is a bit of a challenge especially in areas where food supply has been prevalent)
- FAO needs to support Nutrition Education in the curriculum review level, (few countries have experience in this)
- How can FAO better strategize and work with different ministries in different school nutrition programmes (MoE, MoA, MoH)) (we are mostly known in MoA, and school nutrition mostly falls under MoE)
- Need for Policy influence on school nutrition policies and overall education policies at different levels (ECD, primary, secondary and Higher education)
- Linkage of school nutrition programmes to community production, income generation;
- Need to develop or strengthen the M & E system to follow-up on economic limitations, production capabilities and vulnerability assessments need to be taken into consideration when designing SN programmes and policies.

Session 6: Strategic partnerships

This session was presided over by Prof. Anna Larrey, ESN Director.

The session six addressed the various collaboration of FAO with financial institutions and explained the regional strategy for resource mobilization. The last presentation of this session raised the issue of human resources on the continent.

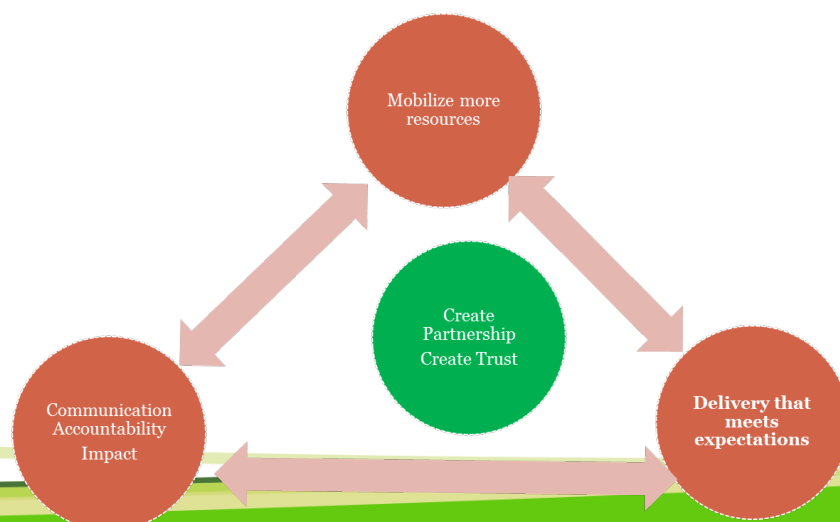
FAO's collaboration with the International Financial Institutions (IFI) and a little guidance on being strategic – Charlotte Dufour, Nutrition Officer – ESN HQ


This presentation shared tips on how to overcome the challenges some colleagues are facing on the ground and how to be strategic and what are the opportunities for collaboration in mainstreaming nutrition in agriculture investments. To be strategic, there is the need to build on our strength by: (1) building a strong legitimacy with Ministries of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Value chains, etc. and (2) identifying strategic entry points in existing “non-nutrition” projects / delivery mechanisms and adding “nutrition-value”. There is also the need to link practice, policy, capacity development and strengthen engagement in nutrition coordination. Communication should be a central axis of all the work FAO Nutritionist do. Nutrition Officers could plan for communication on budgets to raise visibility. Regarding FAO's collaboration with International Financial Institutions, the Investment Center (TCI) was created to support formulation of World Bank agriculture investments and now IFAD joined TCI. Investments are key vehicle for implementation of policies. TCI supports design of national agriculture investments and draws upon expertise of technical divisions as needed. The investments projects that can contribute to better nutrition are large-scale investments in infrastructure, agriculture production, research and extension, etc. In conclusion, colleagues were requested to familiarize themselves with large investments programmes in their countries, and find out who is the Investment Officer in their country or region working on these investment programmes.

Resource mobilization for nutrition programming in Africa: Harnessing strategic donor support – Nadia Nsabimbona, Resource Mobilization Officer - FAO RAF

The FAO's corporate resource mobilization and management strategy has a different focus at different level. At headquarters level, it focuses on corporate areas for resource mobilization (CARMs), at regional level it focuses on RIs and on CPFs at country level. RAF's resource mobilization action plan lies on four pillars: resource partner base, communication/outreach, develop resource mobilization capacities and monitoring against targets. An effective resource mobilization strategy relies on trust and strong partnerships as illustrated in the figure below.

Figure 7 : Resource mobilization and partnership success factors





The nutrition team must now develop a nutrition resource mobilization action plan and communicate results on nutrition interventions. Country offices were advised to provide structured proposals with clear objectives so that the regional office team is in a good position for identifying possible donors.

Harnessing, reinforcing and deploying human resource capacity within FAO for Nutrition in SSA – Mohamed Ag Bendeck, Senior Nutrition Officer – FAO RAF

The last presentation described the state of current human resource capacity in nutrition in the Sub-Saharan Africa region.

Human resources are crucial to have functioning systems. An external evaluation was conducted in 2011 on FAO's role and work in nutrition and it concluded that FAO may not have a clear vision and direction despite the efforts by the nutrition team itself. Nutrition work was limited to 10% of total effort in term of budgeting. Therefore, a concept note on RAF strategic vision and work in nutrition was formulated and implemented for 2011 and 2012 and the Corporate FAO's strategic vision and role in Nutrition was adopted in 2013.

Currently at RAF level there are five Nutrition Officers and International Consultants, with several country offices having more than one nutritionist. The Africa Region in addition, has Nutrition Officer for SFS, SFC and soon at SFE. A National Nutrition Officer in DRC, Nigeria and Kenya, a West Africa Nutrition Officer and two Nutrition Officers for the Resilience Hubs will soon join the team. The situation has improved at regional and sub-regional level and efforts need to be concentrated at country level by mobilizing more resources, sensitizing FAO country offices to integrate nutrition as a priority into CPF and to recruit local national level nutrition specialists. Major concerns raised include, effective ways of attracting and retaining high quality human resources at country level for food and agriculture based nutrition activities.

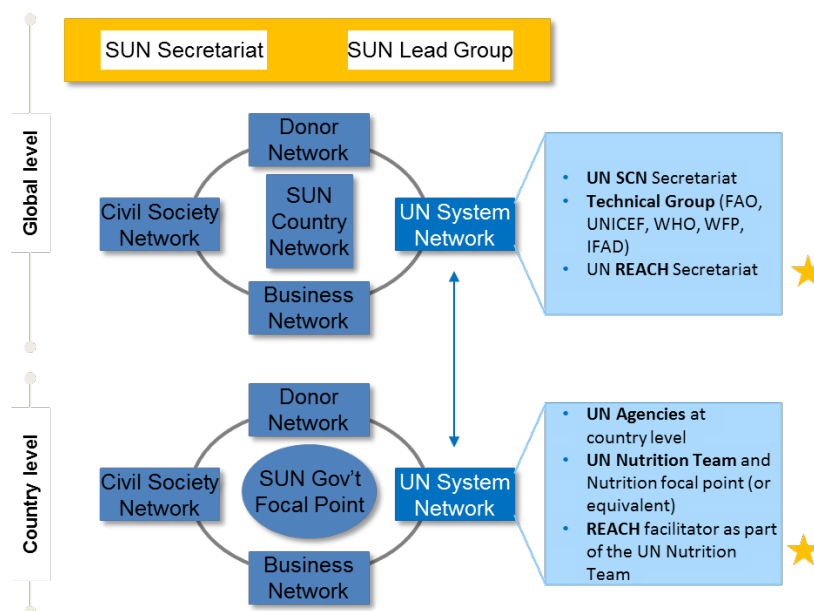
To close the second day, the facilitators projected "Foodies" a Ghanaian television series on nutrition education targeted at inculcating good nutrition habits in children.

Session 7: Bringing it all together – developing a strategy for ICN2 follow-up and strengthening FAO's role in nutrition

The last day started with a recap of day 1 and 2 done by Mawuli Sablah and Charlotte Dufour with reports on the two parallel sessions of the second day by Mercy Chikoko and Angela Kimani. Prof. Anna Larrey provided further clarifications on the evolving nature of REACH and the UN Network for SUN; working as one UN under the SUN Movement.

The highlight emphasized that SUN movement has placed nutrition high on the global development agenda with effort to eliminate all forms of malnutrition; working to achieve sustainable and equitable reduction in malnutrition and nutrition justice for all by strengthening political commitments and accountability. It is transforming the way we used to work together by empowering actors to put in place effective systems and to increase investments. The Movement brings different groups of people (“networks”) together with the collective action to improve nutrition. SUN is not a fund, neither an institution, nor an agency. The UN System Network, including REACH is a key contributor to the SUN Movement.

Figure 8 : Working as one UN under the SUN movement



The seventh session on bringing the three-day deliberations on the consultation together for concrete next steps in developing a post ICN-2 follow up strategy for the region witnessed thorough participatory engagement in group work by colleagues. The group work allowed colleagues to share their knowledge and experience on the three-day consultation in order to develop collaborative post ICN-2 strategy for the region. Six groups were formed (three group per working language: three French speaking and 3 - English speaking) to deliberate, discuss and brainstorm on the following three issues:

- Mainstreaming nutrition in national agriculture strategies and FAO CPF
- FAO and national multi-sectoral nutrition strategies
- Delivering as One UN

- **Group 1: Mainstreaming nutrition in national agriculture strategies and FAO CPF** (lead by Christophe Breyne, for the French speaking group and Nina Dodd for the English-speaking group)

How can FAO strengthen the mainstreaming of nutrition in National Agriculture Investment Plans?
how can FAO strengthen the mainstreaming of nutrition in CPFs?

Box 7: Group work - outcome on mainstreaming nutrition in national agricultural strategies (NAIPs) and FAO CPFs

NAIPs:

- Convene technical sector working work to with concrete proposals and approach on how to mainstream nutrition
- Provide concrete strategies and activities about what can be included
- Capacity development within the agricultural sector at all levels
- Continued advocacy (package nutrition message to communicate with non-nutritionists); having factual catchy information for making nutrition well understood and convincing and build and share evidence of agricultural impacts on nutrition
- Capitalize every opportunity to mainstream nutrition into all programs and projects

CPFs:

- Advocacy with the representative and prepare solid key message, using the tools available
- Elaborate process with different stakeholders: ensure participation of nutrition stakeholders
- Organize seminars on linking agricultural to nutrition and harmonize nutrition approach
- Empowered FAOR basic information on nutrition - information briefs on linkage between nutrition and agriculture,
- RAF to develop orientation package for new people, knowing where resource are
- Guidance on how to respond to issues linked to nutrition (support capacity development)
- Need for providing clarity on ToRs for Nutrition Focal Points (NFPs),
- RAF: follow-up meeting with FAO Rep and nutrition officers jointly to discuss the support of ICN follow-up
- RAF help in the roll-out plans in the countries of the strategic documents produced from ICN-2
- Aim for nutrition officers for each country, strong proposals

- **Group 2: FAO and national multi-sectoral nutrition strategies** (lead by Aissa Mamadou Taïbou for the French speaking group and Mercy Chikoko for the English-speaking group)

What can FAO do to strengthen the contribution of government institutions and other stakeholders from the food and agriculture sector to multi-sectoral nutrition strategies? What are the bottlenecks to their participation? what opportunities can be seized to strengthen their participation? How can we promote better integration across and within sectors?

Box 8 : Group work - outcome on FAO and national multi-sectoral nutrition strategies

Stakeholders:

- Government and quasi government institutions, Private sector, Research and academic, civil society (NGO/CSO), Community/FO, Donors, Media

Opportunities:

- Champions/leaders/advocates/ambassadors who have the interest in nutrition
- Commitments that governments sign up to (ICN2, Malabo Declaration and so on)
- Policies and strategies that support food nutrition
- Existing planning processes

What Nutrition Officers and Focal Points could do:

- Promote visibility of FAOs lead role on food and nutrition
- Promote advocacy on nutrition (internal and external)
- Make use of Champions/leaders/advocates/ambassadors who have the interest in nutrition
- Honoring of Commitments that governments sign up to (ICN2, Malabo Declaration and so on)
- Leveraging existing planning processes, policies and strategies to mainstream nutrition (government documents, UN, FAO)
- Empowering people to mainstream nutrition; do it ourselves
- Explore Donor priorities and maximize on them (relevant concepts)
- Tap on the Multitude of stakeholders (financial resources, information, human resources, and so on)

RAF/HQ Support:

- Regular communication on what is going on in nutrition (Group email for nutrition)
- Quick turn around on feedback to country offices (either way)
- Resource mobilization and increasing nutrition HR at national level

- **Group 3: Delivering as One UN** (lead by Richemont Seki for the French speaking group and by Mauricio Mireles for the English-speaking group)

How can FAO work well with other UN Agencies on nutrition: WFP, UNICEF, WHO? How can FAO leverage opportunities through joint programming? What support is needed? What are the bottlenecks to FAO's engagement and what opportunities can be seized to overcome them?

Box 9 : Group work - outcome on Delivering as One UN

- Ownership by FAO Nutrition Officers on the FAO Nutrition vision
- Disseminate FAO's Nutrition vision to other UN-sister Agencies and Partners
- Undertake joint nutrition programming; planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation with other UN-agencies and capitalizing on the core-competencies of various UN-Nutrition agencies
- Advocate with government for joint UN Nutrition programming
- Undertake joint inter-agency missions and joint resource mobilization for nutrition programming
- Sign collaborative MoUs among all UN-agencies for nutrition strategic engagement at national level
- Capitalize on the joint commitment of UN Nutrition agencies at global and regional level and capitalize the global framework under SUN, UN-Network for SUN, REACH, Rome Declaration/Framework for Action, Post ICN-2, Nutrition and SDGs etc

Session 8: Communication

This session was presided over by Anna Lartey and Mohamed Ag Bendeck. The session was also supported by the Communication Officer of FAO RAF; Ms. Liliane Kambirigi.

The first part of this session was a plenary discussion on how to improve communication among the Nutrition Team at all level as well as promote globally the visibility of FAO's nutrition work in SSA. The second part was dedicated to nutrition programming at country and sub-regional level for the coming years.

Communication for Nutrition

The FAO corporate nutrition website (www.fao.org/nutrition) has been reinforced and improved, and serves as information of general public references for partners, and data for actors. An FAO Nutrition Community mailing list and an e-newsletter are being developed for ESN staff, regional and sub-regional nutrition officers, nutrition focal points in countries and nutrition focal points in other division in HQs. Twice a year, FAO Nutrition News will be published to highlights global nutrition agenda and showcase best practices in countries and other regions.

Incidentally, this Consultation meeting had strong communication coverage. There was a press release published, a book of abstracts compiled for all the presentations and a short video documentary on the three-day consultation being prepared.

Discussion by Sub Regional group on nutrition programming for the coming years

Colleague participants grouped themselves into sub-regional teams and outlined sub-regional action plans and priorities as a follow up to the consultation. Below are the action plans for Central, Western, Southern and Eastern Africa.

SFC - Central Africa:

- Organize a country situation analysis of existing political and strategic FNS documents
- Organize video conference with all countries to share and discuss situation analysis results
- Organize a sub-regional workshop to design a road map based on situation analysis results and countries GAP
- Support SFC countries to elaborate FNS policy and implementation plans
- Support countries to have SUN and REACH focal points
- Implement the action plans of road maps of September workshop
- Assist countries to implement nutrition and food security action plans
- Mobilize financial resources
- Support the establishment of multi-sectoral platforms

WAT - Western Africa:

- Ensure copies of documents and tools are available in French and shared with stakeholders
- Develop context specific briefing notes on nutrition in the Sahel and for the Coastal countries
- Improve the dissemination of strategic nutrition documents to CILSS, ECOWAS, and Nutrition Focal Points
- FAO advocacy with CILSS to improve on mainstreaming nutrition into programmes and ensure nutrition focal points are involved in AGIR
- Nutrition focal points should engage in multi-sectoral platforms including the *Cadre Harmonisé* (CH)

- FAO should engage actively in the next ECOWAS Nutrition Forum and the IPC towards the Forum
- High level advocacy to link SMART Survey with CH or take this into account
- Improve on the exchange of information among the regional nutrition working group
- Reinforce the role of FAO Nutrition approach in countries
- Reinforce the capacity and implication of FAO in the SUN process at national level

SFS - Southern Africa:

- Brief the FAOR on the outcomes and recommendations of the meeting.
- In addition, conduct Internal seminars with FAO country team and well as UNDAF/UNCT on linking agricultural to nutrition.
- Accelerate the process of developing the knowledge management platform
- Develop regional initiatives for donor funding that would support countries with no or small donor base such as Lesotho
- Translate actions points agreed at the consultation meeting for sub-regional implementation
- Advocate to incorporate the meeting recommendations into the 2016-2017 biennium plans
- Integrate Food safety and Nutrition at all levels
- Support countries to develop food composition tables (Malawi and Zimbabwe expressed interest)
- Leveraging existing planning processes, policies and strategies to mainstream nutrition (government documents, UN, FAO).
- Target new CPFs for 2015 (Eritrea, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe)
- Strengthen engagement with RECs with visible actions such as secondment of someone to RECs eg NEPAD
- Conduct a capacity gap assessment for the region*

SFE – Eastern Africa

- Stock taking- Support FAO countries in mapping and consolidation of all nutrition related activities (and share the experiences across the countries),
- Strengthen strategic regional representation: Need for FAO Countries collaboration with EAC (though this is beyond nutrition division), besides IGAD,
- Countries to share their national focal persons on nutrition (in health, agriculture) with us, (this will help to better coordinate FSNWG nutrition information flow to and from countries),
- Angela- to share the draft Regional Support Plan (on FSN) that was developed by 4 UN agencies after consultation with the countries (and also to share the individual country support plans that were developed),
- IPC- strengthen the linkages between IPC EA Coordinator to nutrition colleagues in FAO country offices, where it hasn't yet been done.

Key recommendations and next steps of the Consultation meeting have been summarized in the table 3 below.

Key recommendations

Table 3 : Key recommendations and next steps

| What | By who | when |
|---|------------------------------|------------|
| Disseminate FAO's vision and Strategy on nutrition at regional and country level (RECs, Representations, governments and other partners) | FAO HQ and RAF and countries | Continuous |
| Repackage food and agriculture nutrition-related messages for non-nutritionists (at regional and country level) and develop guidelines on FAO Representative's role on nutrition | FAO HQ and RAF | |
| Communicate more with RECs and countries (Representations, governments and other partners) on existing global and regional nutrition initiatives/ programmes/commitments (ex. SUN, ICN2) where FAO has comparative advantages | FAO HQ and RAF and countries | Continuous |
| Accelerate the integration of nutrition into CAADP process and existing FS strategic documents (RECs and countries) and build on the existing experiences | FAO HQ and RAF and countries | Continuous |
| Provide technical support for the elaboration/revision, implementation/monitoring and evaluation of the CPFs, NAIPs and other FS strategic documents | FAO HQ, RAF | Continuous |
| Disseminate FAO's work and best practices on nutrition-sensitive agriculture | FAO HQ and RAF and countries | Continuous |
| Formulate projects and integrate nutrition into all FAO programmes that can allow to recruit nutrition experts | FAORs | Continuous |
| Support and advocate at RAF management and country level for the recruitment of government staff-provided (nutritionists and interns) | FAO RAF, FAORs | Continuous |
| Use more interns at country level to support the Representation Nutrition Programming | FAORs | Continuous |
| Formalize and disseminate FAO's work on M and E (including definition of indicators) to RECs and countries (Rep., partners and governments) | FAO HQ, FAO RAF, FAORs | |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------|
| Support the integration of FAO's nutrition-related indicators mainly WDDS into national Food Security Information Systems and build the capacities at country level | FAO HQ, RAF and FAORs | |
| Develop a common M and E framework at regional and country level | FAORAF, FAORs | |
| Develop and disseminate a nutrition resource mobilisation strategy for Africa | FAO RAF | |
| Support country Representations in resource mobilisation | FAO RAF, FAO HQ | Continuous |
| Participate actively in the functioning of FNS coordination groups at country level (ex. SUN Networks) | FAORs | Continuous |
| Increase participation to Joint Programme at country level | FAORs | Continuous |
| Increase better understanding of FAO's role on nutrition within UNCT and advocate for integration of food based approaches and nutrition-sensitive agriculture in the UNDAF | FAORs | Continuous |

Before the closing of the meeting, participants took the time to provide feedback and filled the evaluation form. The Annex 3 summarizes the main outcomes of their feedback.

The Senior Regional Nutrition Advisor for the Africa Region thanked all colleagues for their commitment to nutrition in the region and their contribution to the success of the three-day consultation. Following brief closing remarks and appreciation on the overall outcome of the consultation, the Director for Nutrition drew down the curtain on the Second FAO Africa Regional Nutrition Coordination and Programming Consultation.

Annex 1 : List of participants

| Country | Name | Position | Email |
|---|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
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Annex 2 : Agenda

2nd FAO Africa Regional Nutrition Coordination and Programming Consultation

July 22-24, 2015, Alisa Hotel, Accra, Ghana

Theme: Advancing Nutrition Sensitive Food Systems - Post ICN-2 Agenda for Africa

Overall Workshop Facilitation: Charlotte Dufour and Mawuli Sablah

| | |
|--------------|---|
| | Wednesday, July 22, 2015 |
| 08:30 | Registration of participants |
| 09:00 | Session 1: Opening ceremony of RAF nutrition consultation workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks by Snr. Nutrition Officer, FAO RAF – Mohamed Ag Bendeck • Keynote Address: Post ICN-2 Global Nutrition Agenda, and Priorities for Africa under the Rome Declaration and its Framework for Action and Nutrition in SDGs: Prof. Anna Larrey Director of Nutrition • Good will remarks by German Ambassador to Ghana - Excellency John Ruediger • Good will remarks by Excellency Jomo Sundaram- ADG ES – FAO HQ • Opening Remarks by the ADG/RR for FAO Africa – Excellency Bukar Tijani |
| 10:10 | Group Photo Tea/coffee/cocoa break |
| 10:30 | Introduction of workshop participants and expectations : (Charlotte Dufour) |
| 11:15 | Workshop programme and objectives: Mawuli Sablah (FAO – RAF) – (15 min) |
| 11:30 | Overview on multiple nutrition challenges and evolving food systems in Africa - Mohamed Ag Bendeck (20mins) |
| 11:50 | Session 2: Setting the scene – FAO nutrition commitments at global and regional levels – Presided over by Joachim Laubhouet-Akadie <p>2a) FAO Corporate Nutrition Strategy, ICN2 outcomes, Nutrition in the SDGs, and UN Nutrition Governance Update – Anna Larrey and Leslie Amoroso 20 min followed by 10 min questions – (25 min)</p> <p>2b) FAO-RAF commitments on the roll-out of the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy under the Renewed Partnership to End Hunger in Africa and the Malabo Declaration, & Regional Initiatives (RIs) in Africa and underlying contributions to Nutrition outcomes in pilot countries. Mohamed Ag Bendeck – 15 min</p> <p>2c) FAO-NEPAD Partnership on Mainstreaming Nutrition in CAADP: key outcomes and follow-up - Mawuli Sablah – 15 min</p> <p>10 min discussion on presentations 2b & 2c</p> <p>2d) Communication for Nutrition at FAO – Chiara Deligia (15mins) – (Video Conference)</p> |
| 13:15 | Lunch break |
| 14:15 | Session 3: Sub-Regional Updates on Nutrition Policies and Programming Partnerships with Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) (10 min for each presenter) - Presided over by Dr. Tobias Takavarasha <p>3a) West Africa (WAT) Regional Nutrition Policies and Programme Priorities and the ECOWAS Hunger Free Initiative in Partnership with ECOWAS-RAAF/WAHO, UEMOA - Richemont Seki and Adama Taoko</p> <p>3b) Central Africa (SFC) Regional Nutrition Policies and Programme priorities in Partnership with CEMAC - Aissa Mamadou Taibou</p> <p>3c) Southern Africa (SFS) Nutrition Policies and Programme Priorities in Partnership with SADC &</p> |

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| | <p>COMESA - Mercy Chikoko</p> <p>3d) Nutrition in Emergency and Food Security Resilience in the Sahel - Christophe Breyne</p> <p>3e) Nutrition and Resilience through Farmer Field and/or Agro-Pastoral Field Schools in the Horn/ Eastern Africa and Nutrition Partnership with IGAD - Angela Kimani</p> <p>Plenary observations and questions with panel of presenters - facilitated by Dr. Tobias Takavarasha (30 min)</p> |
| 15:30 | Tea/coffee/cocoa break |
| 16:00 | Poster session / share fair: Country Experience on Integrated Nutrition, Food Security & Social Protection Programmes |
| 17:00 | Plenary: feedback from groups about key insights from the posters - facilitated by Charlotte Dufour |
| 17:45 | End of Day 1 |
| 18:00 | Reception |

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| | Thursday, July 23, 2015 |
| 0830 | <p>Report of Day 1:</p> <p>Exchange at tables (groups of 3): what did I learn yesterday which I will use in my work after the consultation?</p> |
| 09:00 | <p>Session 4: FAO tools and approaches for nutrition-sensitive agriculture and cross-cutting themes (10 mins per presentation) – Presided over by James Tefft</p> <p>4a) Key Recommendations and checklist and guidance for programme formulation; enhancing the nutritional impact of agricultural investment plans - Charlotte Dufour</p> <p>4b) Integrating and monitoring nutrition indicators in food security information systems and linking food security and nutrition with agricultural information systems in Africa - Giorgia Nicolo</p> <p>4c) Effective Nutrition Education in Action for Francophone Africa (ENAF), updates and incorporating nutrition Education into Agricultural Extension System Curricular - Yvette Fautsch and Laouratou Dia</p> <p>20 min plenary discussion facilitated by James Tefft</p> <p>4d) Food commodities value chain and impact on nutrition - Moussa Djagoudi</p> <p>4e) Food safety, bio-fortification and evolving trends in multiple burden of malnutrition/NCDs and food systems regulation - Jean Kamanzi</p> <p>4f) Gender empowerment in nutrition sensitive agriculture programming - Sophie Tatria and Tacko Ndiaye</p> <p>20 min plenary discussion facilitated by James Tefft</p> |
| 11:00 | Tea/coffee/cocoa break |
| 11:30 | <p>Session 4 (cont'd): FAO tools and approaches for nutrition-sensitive agriculture (10 mins per presentation) – Presided over by James Tefft</p> <p>4g) Food consumption surveys/dietary assessment updates - Catherine Leclercq (by video conference)</p> <p>4h) Food composition Tables and Development on Afrofoods/Infodis - Ruth Charrondiere (by video conference)</p> <p>20 min plenary discussion facilitated by James Tefft</p> |
| 12:00 | <p>Panel on Nutrition and Country Programming Framework and post-Malabo follow-up – (Joachim Laubhouet-Akadi, Tobias Takavarasha, Mamoudou Diallo, Aristide Ongone Obame, Adama Taoko) – Facilitated by James Tefft (60 min)</p> |
| 13:15 | Lunch break |

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| 14:15 | <p>Parallel session 5.1: Nutrition Information System Strengthening (10 min per presentation) - Presided over by Nina Dodd and Aissa Mamadou Taibou</p> <p>Rationale and session focus: A commonly cited constraint for nutrition-sensitive food and agriculture planning is the lack of information on the situation (e.g. food consumption, etc.) and lack of evidence. What can FAO do to help countries overcome these challenges? What are good practices currently implemented by FAO and how can we strengthen our capacity development efforts in this area? What are priority areas we should focus on?</p> <p>5.1a) Introduction to NIS – key components of a Food Security and Nutrition Information System (2-3 slides) – 5 mins</p> <p>5.1b) Country example of strengthening nutrition information system – Niger - Solange Heise (10 min)</p> <p>5.1c) The creation of a knowledge sharing platform on FSN in Southern Africa; opportunities and challenges - Mercy Chikoko (10 min)</p> <p>35 min facilitated discussion on key questions</p> |
| 14:15 | <p>Parallel session 5.2: Social Protection and Purchase from Africa for Africa (PAA)/School Nutrition (10 min per presentation) –Presided over by Aristide Ongone Obame</p> <p>Rationale and session focus: Linking social protection and agriculture presents unique opportunities for improving nutrition. What role can FAO play in fostering these linkages and how can we ensure FAO’s work on social protection contributes to better nutrition?</p> <p>5.2a) Linking social protection through agriculture for improving Nutrition; potential synergies and impacts: Al-hassan Cisse</p> <p>5.2b) Purchase from Africa for Africa (PAA) - promoting food and nutrition security and income generation: Lorena Braz (<i>including country examples</i>)</p> <p>5.2c) School Nutrition and South-South Corporation on School Feeding Programmes in Africa: Mauricio Mireles (<i>including country examples</i>)</p> <p>5.2d) Integrated school nutrition approach at national level – Luciano Fonseca - Cape Verde</p> <p>Plenary discussion – Country experience on the above thematic areas (30 min) – facilitated by Aristide Ongone Obame</p> |
| 15:30 | Tea/coffee/cocoa break |
| 16:00 | <p>Session 5: Feedback from the parallel sessions</p> <p>10 min feedback by group + 5 min clarification</p> |
| 16:30 | <p>Session 6: Strategic Partnerships – Presided over by James Tefft</p> <p>6a) FAO’s collaboration with the International Financial Institutions (IFI) - World Bank, IFAD etc. and mapping out strategic donors (German Gov., EU, Gates Foundation, USAID, etc.) engagement for FAO mobilization of financial resources for Nutrition in Africa: Charlotte Dufour (15 min)</p> <p>6b) Resource mobilization for Nutrition programming in Africa; harnessing strategic donor support: Nadia Nsabimbona – (15 min)</p> <p>6c) Harnessing, reinforcing and deploying human resource capacity within FAO for Nutrition in SSA: Mohamed Ag Bendeche – (10 min)</p> <p>Plenary discussion on resource mobilization opportunities (20 min) – facilitated by James Tefft</p> |
| 17:30 | End of Day 2 |
| 18:00 | Viewing of “Foodies” – Nutrition education television series in Ghana |

Friday, July 24, 2015

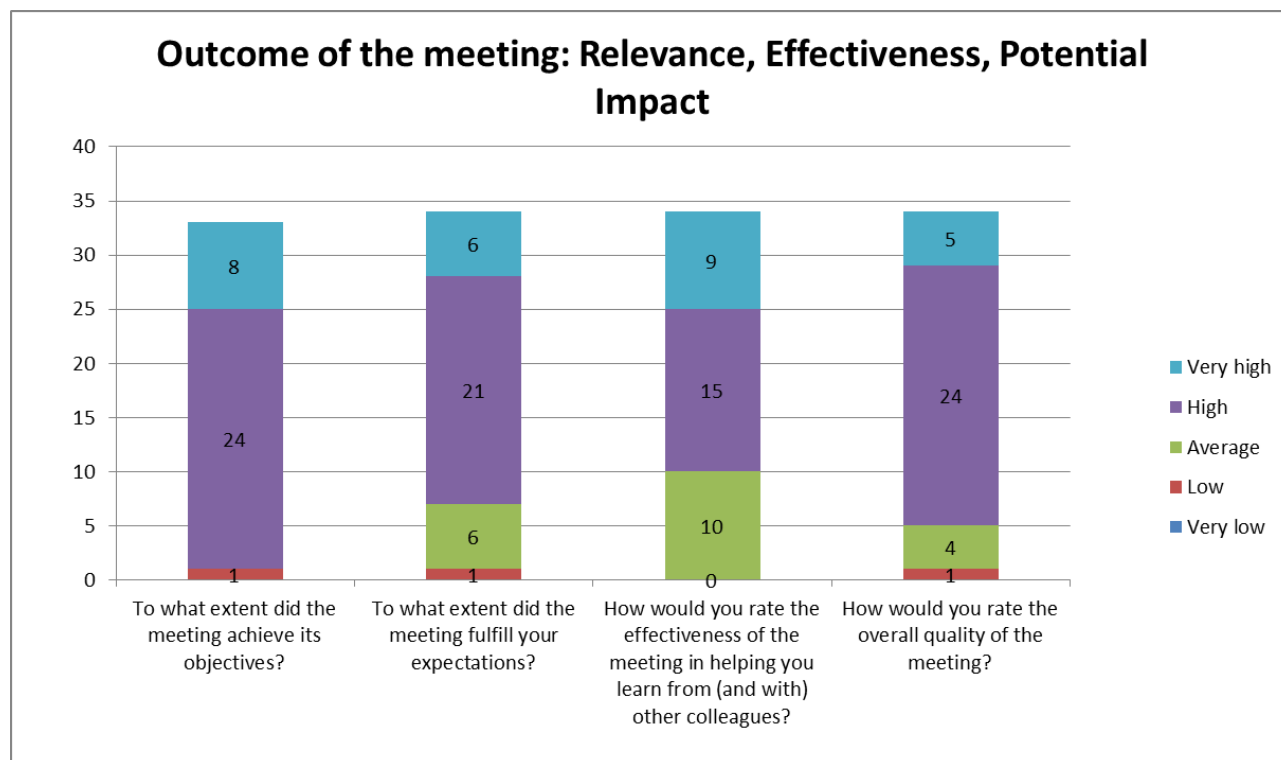
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|-------|---|
| 08:30 | Report on Day 1&2/ Day |
| 9:00 | <p>Session 7a: Bringing it all together – developing a strategy for ICN2 follow-up and strengthening FAO's role in nutrition at country and regional level</p> <p><i>Group work –</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mainstreaming nutrition in national agriculture strategies and FAO CPF: How can we strengthen the mainstreaming of nutrition in FAO's work and NAIPs? 2) FAO and national multi-sectoral nutrition strategies: What can FAO do to strengthen the contribution of government institutions and other stakeholders from the food and agriculture sector to multi-sectoral nutrition strategies? What are the bottlenecks to their participation, what opportunities can be seized to strengthen their participation? How can we promote better integration across and within sectors? 3) Delivering as One UN: how can FAO work well with other UN Agencies; WFP, UNICEF, WHO? Leverage opportunities through joint programming? What support is needed? |
| 10:30 | Tea/coffee/cocoa break |
| 11:00 | <p>Session 7b: Bringing it all together – developing a strategy for ICN2 follow-up and strengthening FAO's role in nutrition at country and regional level</p> <p>Presentation of group work (10 min per group) and structured plenary discussion (1 hour) – agreement of concrete next steps</p> |
| 13:00 | Lunch break |
| 14:00 | <p>Session 8: Communication – Presided over by Anna Larthey and Mohamed Ag Bendeck</p> <p>9a) Plenary deliberations on improving communications among Nutrition Team at all levels (ESN, RAF, Sub-Regional and Country levels) – facilitated by Anna Larthey and Mohamed Ag Bendeck</p> <p>9b) Representations of FAO Nutrition commitments on international fora: Anna Larthey</p> |
| 15:00 | <p>Discussion by Sub regional groups (SFC, SFE, SFS, SFW) on Nutrition Programming for the coming years</p> <p>Adopting Report with key Recommendations and Next Steps</p> |
| 16:00 | Closing Ceremony and Start of Weekend in Accra |

Annex 3 : Summary of the evaluation forms

Participants provided feedback throughout the meeting. At the end of the two first days they were requested to fill a daily evaluation form and they also gave feedback on the overall consultation meeting at the end of the third day.

The graph below illustrates the overall perception of participants on how relevant and effective the meeting was.

Figure 9 : Outcome of the meeting



Overall, participants appreciated the work of the facilitators; they qualified them as “good and knowledgeable” and find their work excellent. The work of the interpreters was more mitigated. The equipment was not functioning every time and the translation from English to French was not systematic.

Below are few answers to some questions that were asked in the evaluation form (table 4).



Table 4: Participants' feedback

| Questions | Comments |
|---|---|
| What good practices did you learn from other country experiences on integrating nutrition, food security and social protection programme? | Farmers Field School, Nutrition Education, School Nutrition and Health Programme, Cash transfer scheme, Purchase from Africans for Africa, Linking Social Protection for improved nutrition, Kitchen garden, Nutrition Indicators, Food Composition Table (Sierra Leone), Mobile voucher in Burundi, Protective safety net in Burkina Faso, FAO commitments and Coordination and partnership |
| What is your action plan on following up on global and regional initiative in your country/sub region? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review National policies in regard of nutrition - Share key information of the meeting to colleagues - Support my country to be part of the SUN movement - Support the translation of global and regional commitment into action in my country - Integration of nutrition in all TCPs - Resource mobilization - More coordination, more interaction between colleague |
| What is the action plan you made for coordinating interventions and strengthening partnership in your country or sub region? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement an active platform on nutrition in my country - To engage more with partners - Work with RECs, UN Network, National network, SUN, REACH and regional initiatives |
| How are you planning the resource mobilization for your country/sub region? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joint Programming with WFP and UNICEF - Through CPF and Resource mobilization Plan - Advocacy with key ministries, colleagues, donors, policy makers, etc. |
| What are your plans to mainstream nutrition into policies, programmes and investment plans in your country? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taking advantage of on-going national plan review to mainstream nutrition - Continuing actions on capacity development - Opportunity through the CADDAP NAIP to incorporate nutrition - Through CPF PNIASAN - Identify different entry point - Take advantage of any opportunities that may rise to ensure nutrition is included |
| What did you find most useful about the meeting? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with colleagues from HQ, regional and country offices - Sharing resources and information |
| What did you find least useful about the meeting? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The scope of content is too wide - Days are too long, so it's difficult to stay focused |
| What are your recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the meeting? What should we do differently? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having an afternoon for team building activities - Shorter days and more interaction and discussion |

The following table is compiling the daily feedback received from participants that helped us adapt the agenda to fit with their expectations.

Compilation of daily feedback by participants

Table 5 : Daily feedback

| Enjoyed / learned / liked  | Could have gone better / things that were missing  |
|--|--|
| <p>Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening remarks very good and motivational - Variety of presentation for the different region - Meeting well organized, good atmosphere and hot topics were covered - Timing very well observed and meal was very nice - Very participatory, all countries could contribute and ask questions (Eng and Fr) - Global overview of what is happening in Africa - Poster session was very constructive - Group discussion - Presentations on international commitment for nutrition and their implications in FAO daily work. <p>Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reorganization of the agenda with parallel sessions - FAO tool for nutrition sensitive agriculture - Nutrition Education - ENAF programme - Integration of nutrition in FFS - Advantage of Value Chain - Importance of Food Safety and on Food Composition - Panel on Nutrition CPF, it was interesting to have FAOR's perspective - Parallel session on Social Protection and PAA - Session on Strategic Partnership - Presentation on Resource Mobilization - Presentation on Financial institutions - Strengthening of M&E - Session 7 showing the way forward - Organization of the consultation meeting with HQ, RAF, Sub-regional and country level - Facilitation was good and stimulating - Interactive – participatory - Foodies video were the high light | <p>Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time very squeezed - Time allocated to discussion must be reviewed - Too much presentations - Time allocated to presentations was too short - Countries would like to obtain practical guidance and how to implement policies in concrete terms - More group work and discussion - Emphasize more on opportunities and challenges <p>Day 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Too tight need some breaks - Less presentation, more discussion - At least the main PPT on social protection should have been in plenary - Share the 10 or 12 food groups - Formulating relevant nutrition indicators - More time to discuss food composition tables and development of Afrofoods - Difficult to retain if you are not from nutrition background - Presentation on gender and nutrition was too superficial - Need to clarify more on REACH - Parallel session: was interested in both and had to choose one <p>Suggestion :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have different poster session each day. It really helps to learn from the other countries |



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